

Portfolio £42,000 to be won

There is £42,000 to be won in today's Times Portfolio competition... The weekly prize of £10,000 and the daily one of £2,000.

North Sea oil price cut likely

Further cuts in oil prices are on the way, industry reports suggest. The British National Oil Corporation is expected to fix a June price for North Sea oil of around \$26.50 a barrel, a cut of \$1.40.

Greeks rest before poll

Greek voters have won a day of rest from rallies, loudspeakers, leaflets and political advertisements at the end of an intense election campaign.

Labour rebuff

Labour's deputy leader rejected a deal with the Alliance to bring parliament as a danger to democracy.

Flights saved

Spanish air traffic controllers called off a strike planned for next week after civil aviation authorities agreed to grant them a bigger say in air safety.

Tories divided

A split has developed among top Conservatives over proposals by the Government which could lead to the abolition of wages councils.

Border sealed

Punjab's border with Pakistan was sealed as Sikh began a week of protests to mark the first anniversary of the storming of the Golden Temple.

Loans tighten

Money for home loans is getting tighter. What are your chances of a mortgage? As a saver where do you get the best interest rate?

Heavier lorries

British lorry companies will seek a six-tonne rise in lorry weight to 44 tonnes when the issue comes up for negotiation in Brussels in two years.

Gettys settle

J Paul Getty, the oil tycoon, whose descendants have resolved their family squabble over his \$4 billion legacy after a 19-month court case.

Francis fear

Trevor Francis, in Mexico with England's footballers, has expressed fears for the safety of his family living in Italy, following the tragedy in Brussels.

ENIGMA

The last chance to enter our Codename Enigma competition. The final clue is in the back page information service.

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Sports, Arts, Business, Clubs, Court, Countdown, Diary. Includes sub-sections like Religion, Sales, Science, Services, Sport, TV & Radio, Theatres, Universities, Weather.

English teams told to put their 'house in order'

FA ban on clubs playing in Europe

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Football Association yesterday reacted to the Brussels disaster in which 38 people died by banning English clubs from European competition next season.

The decision, announced by FA officials outside 10 Downing Street after talks with the Prime Minister, was immediately endorsed by Mrs Margaret Thatcher but received with bitter disappointment by some of the clubs involved and anger by the Football League which was not consulted.

It came after the Belgian government had banned all British clubs from playing in Belgium until further notice and Liverpool, whose supporters have been blamed for precipitating Wednesday night's riot before the European Cup final with Juventus, had announced independently that it was pulling out of next season's UEFA cup contest.

As a result of the FA decision, taken by the emergency committee after the return of Mr Ber Millichip, the chairman and Mr Ted Croker, the secretary, from England's tour in Mexico but before the meeting with Mrs Thatcher, Everton will be barred from playing in next season's European Cup, Manchester United from the Cup Winners' Cup, Tottenham Hotspur and Southampton, from the UEFA cup.

During a second day of busy activity at Downing Street, Mr Croker announced the ban and added: "It is now up to English football to put its house in order."

Mr Millichip, acknowledging that the FA had probably anticipated a ban that would have been imposed in any case by UEFA the Union of European Football Associations in July, said: "It was very important that the FA took positive action and immediately."

He added that it was the most terrible decision he had ever had to take. Football was the national game. "To think that we now have to ban our clubs from operating in Europe and getting experience of European football is a terrible thing to have happened."

He offered particular sympathy to Norwich City, who were relegated from the first division in the past season but had qualified for European competition for the first time by winning the Milk Cup. "I feel very sorry for them, but I am certain that all the clubs in the Football League will understand and appreciate the decision we had to take."

Mrs Thatcher, interviewed outside Number 10, said she was very pleased with the decision.



Mr Croker (left) and Mr Millichip in Downing Street yesterday. (Photograph: Dod Miller)

Thatcher calls for tougher sentences

By Our Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night called on the courts to impose tougher penalties on football hooligans, describing the sentences in the recent case involving Cambridge football hooligans, including one of five years, as absolutely right.

Speaking in Downing Street after her meeting with Football Association officials she said that allegations of National Front involvement in Wednesday's riot, and in those at other matches would have to be investigated. But it did not matter to which organization people belonged; they had to be brought before the courts.

But even before yesterday's meeting it became evident that the Government's hope of a united all-party approach to tackling football hooliganism had been shattered. Mr Neil Kinnock, speaking in Vienna, opposed a ban on British clubs playing in Europe; the only beneficiaries of such a ban would be those who caused the "murderous riot" in Brussels.

That criticism of the ban, and the speed with which it was imposed, seems certain to be echoed when the Commons is given a statement on the Brussels tragedy on Monday. The opposition also has considerable doubts over the wisdom of enforcing membership card schemes on clubs.

But it is expected that the emergency Bill, planned by the Government now to be confined to banning the sale of alcohol at or near grounds and on transport to grounds, will receive all-party support and be law by the next football season.

Social security system review

Serps to be phased out within 10 years

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The Government is to phase out the state earnings-related pension scheme (Serps) over a period of about a decade. This will allow people in their fifties now in the scheme to stay with it until retirement.

Those under that age will be transferred over a period of a few years to compulsory private provision, either an occupational scheme or the new personal portable pensions the Government intends to create in November.

For the youngest workers - those in their teens and perhaps their early 20s - pension provision will probably be voluntary, to encourage them to take low-paid work without take-home pay being cut by compulsory pension provision.

The Government's proposals are not expected to be known in detail until the green paper on the whole social security system is published probably on Monday.

But phasing proposals have been drawn up to allow ministers to argue that they are honouring commitments to those nearing retirement age, while still ending the scheme before its costs mount rapidly in the next century. At the same time, phasing the introduction of private pensions for those now in Serps meets the Chancellor's objection that a sudden switch would lose the Treasury large sums in tax relief in a short period.

Figures from the government actuary show that the support ratio - the number of workers paying taxes to finance state pensions - will actually im-

More than 100 injured in commuter train crash

By Tony Samstag

More than 100 people were treated in hospital yesterday after a high-speed Gatwick Express crashed into the back of a commuter train at Battersea Park station, south London, on the main Brighton line.

Of the 105 passengers and British Rail staff seen at St Thomas's hospital in Lambeth, and St Stephens in Chelsea, 14 were admitted, mostly for observation, and the others released after treatment for cuts, bruises and shock. One man who underwent an emergency operation at St Thomas's for abdominal injuries was said afterwards to be stable and not seriously ill.

The London-bound Gatwick Express airport link, carrying 160 passengers struck the back of the six-car diesel train, the 8.51am from East Grinstead, with 290 aboard as it was pulling out of Battersea Park station at about 5mph.

The trains bounded 20 yards apart after the collision, and the rear of the second Gatwick coach was buckled by a whiplash effect as the impact rippled through the two trains.

The East Grinstead train was not badly damaged, and there was no derailment. Services were severely disrupted from the time of the accident, just before 10am, until the Gatwick train, eight coaches and a rear locomotive, was removed just after 4pm.

Injured passengers told afterwards of a loud bang and shattering windows at the time they were thrown about in their carriages. Continued on page 2, col 4

Syrians on alert as Sabra falls

From Our Correspondent Beirut

Shia Muslim forces yesterday finally overwhelmed the Sabra refugee camp in Beirut after 12 days of fierce fighting that has left much of the shantytown in ruins.

Amal militiamen started dynamiting houses around the camp, apparently to make sure that the Palestinian defenders do not return. Amal claimed it had captured 20 fighters.

The short-lived ceasefire declared yesterday morning was called as President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon flew back from a meeting with President Assad amid growing speculation that the Syrians would send in troops to halt the fighting.

President Gemayel said in Damascus that he believed only Syrian intervention would bring peace.

Speculation about the possible move grew as reporters in the Bekaa valley said Syrian troops have been placed on the alert and put into new positions.

Newspapers in Beirut said President Assad has agreed to a request by President Gemayel to send a force into the Lebanese capital. At nightfall, the Amal leader, Mr Nabih Berri, issued a new call for a ceasefire from the Syrian President's request.

"This is to pave the way for Syrian-sponsored efforts to arrange a final solution," Mr Berri said. Yesterday, the Palestinians were still holding out in Chatila camp in what has become an increasingly desperate battle as they see the remnants of the power they once wielded in Lebanon evaporate as Amal and the Lebanese Army's overwhelmingly Shia 6th Brigade tighten the ring around their strongholds.

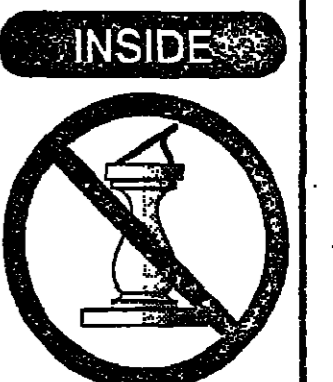
The Shias brought up more armour to replace the tanks they lost in the heaviest fighting around the camps since the month-long siege by Israeli troops three years ago. A column of armoured vehicles, including at least two US-made M42 tanks were seen rolling into Chatila as the Shia pumped rocket-propelled grenades into the battered camp.

A Palestinian spokesman said by telephone from Chatila: "We've been under fire since 2pm... They're leveling the camp bit by bit. They've made it plain that they don't want the camps or their inhabitants in Beirut any more."

SIA Men held: Shia gunmen snatched 27 militiamen of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army from a position in Israeli-held territory in Southern Lebanon early yesterday, security sources said (AP reports).

ROCKET ATTACK: Beirut Radio said that 40 rockets fired from the nearby mountains yesterday hit the Beirut area, 15 of them landing on the southern suburbs.

THE TIMES 1785-1985



Class trends in haughty culture What's in, what's out in avant gardening Page 11

Rock solid on the Med The British flavour of Gibraltar Page 12



Clued up on whodunnits? Your chance to win a Murder Weekend Page 17

The birth of Peter Grimes Memories of a Britten premiere Page 20

MONDAY



Cashpoint charm and answering machine etiquette Laurie Taylor in the first of a series on modern manners

Listing history Taking a broad view of Britain's listed buildings

Awakening giant Premier Zhao Ziyang on his vision for China's future

Miles of smiles Miles Kingston returns

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3. I wish interruptions and 'emergencies' didn't take so much valuable time out of the day.
4. Being able to delegate is important in my job, but I often find it difficult to follow-through.
5. Our company meetings seldom result in effective plans-of-action.

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Joseph call for school closures

From Lucy Hodges Education Correspondent

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday that the way to release more money for education was for local authorities to close more half-empty schools.

His advice, accompanied by heckling on the closing day of the National Association of Head Teachers' conference at Scarborough, contained the acknowledgement that this was an unpopular thing to do. "I do not expect I will get wide

applause for this, though I think that I should," he said. "I realize how awkward it is for locally-elected members to initiate closures or mergers. But you must recognize that some resources are being spread over half-empty schools which could be better spent on fewer."

Sir Keith reaffirmed that there would be no more money from central government this year for a settlement of the teachers' pay dispute, but there would be more money next year if teachers agreed to a redefinition of their duties and responsibilities. They could not

have more money for nothing, he said. Sir Keith's lecture to the head teachers came after his address and in reply to a question from Mr Derek Best, the association's president, who said, to loud applause, that Sir Keith's initiatives to improve schooling will be meaningless unless he recognized the need for more money to be spent on education.

Sir Keith said the Government was not asking for all empty school places to be removed as a result of falling enrolment. To coincide with the anniversary of the Road Traffic Act, 1934, which introduced the test, exempted all those who held licences before April 1, 1934, from having to take it. The provisions became known on March 29, the day before Good Friday, and when London County Council staff arrived at work on March 31, they were faced with a queue along the Embankment stretching the length of County Hall. Nearly 2,000 licences were issued.

'Terror' test passes golden milestone

By David Nicholson-Lord

An institution which continues to instil a disproportionate degree of terror in the British public, celebrates a special anniversary this weekend. The driving test is officially 50 years old today.

It was introduced on June 1, 1935, in response to growing carnage on Britain's roads and against a background of deep suspicion from the motoring establishment. The Ministry of Transport hired 250 examiners to put drivers through a then largely unknown routine of three-point turns, uphill starts, and emergency stops. The routine has remained much the same, apart from the

Rate of adult unemployment rise slackens

Adult unemployment rose at a slower pace last month. The figure increased by 3,400 to a record 3,179,600 in May, but the rise the smallest since October - compared favourably with that of 28,200 in April.

The unadjusted unemployment total, including school leavers, declined by 31,618 to 3,240,947. Official statisticians believe that the 28,200 rise in April was because of companies postponing recruitment over the Easter holiday, and that the underlying increase is between 10,000 and 15,000 a month.

Kenneth Fleet, page 21

Hattersley rejects deal with Alliance after poll as blow to democracy

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Roy Hattersley, Labour's deputy leader, last night hardened his party's refusal to contemplate the prospect of a deal with the Liberal Social Democrat Alliance if the next election results in a hung parliament by saying that it would be dangerous to democracy.

He described proposals put forward by Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen for negotiations between the Alliance and the two main parties about the formation of a government if the Alliance holds the balance of power as "absurdly naive" and accused Dr Owen of "fantasizing" in talking about the possibility.

Again concentrating the Labour leadership's attack on Dr Owen rather than Mr Steel, Mr Hattersley said that the SDP leader's proposals for a post-election coalition were based on the proposition that, whatever policies the parties promised before polling day, they ought to break those promises in order to

enjoy a share of power. Such proposals were profoundly dangerous to the democratic system, he said.

The Labour Party would offer itself to the electorate on the basis of a manifesto which describes the policies it would pursue if it became the government. "But if we accepted Dr Owen's doctrine, those voters would be denied all such choice. For the programme of the next government would be decided after the votes had been cast on the basis of private horse trading."

Under Dr Owen's proposition the Alliance would ask each party what price they would pay to buy Alliance support, and each would negotiate away its beliefs during a competition in which the victory would go to whichever party was prepared to break most election promises, Mr Hattersley said.

The Alliance scheme depended on the two parties which received the largest

number of votes being prevented from carrying out their mandate. "Dr Owen wants a hung parliament in which nobody can be assured of getting what they voted for. It is of course a prescription for weak government..."

It was not a prescription which could be favoured by anyone who believed that politics ought to be a contest between rival policies, rather than rival personalities. "For all Dr Owen can offer us is Dr Owen, and whatever policies he privately negotiates with other parties after the election. It is the doctors' mandate in its most extreme form. An elite group diagnoses the disease and prescribes a cure. The patient is not consulted until the operation is over."

When the next election was over, Mr Hattersley said, there could be no moratorium on government while each of the parties competed for Alliance support.



Buckled train: London-bound Gatwick Express air link after the crash (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)



An injured woman is helped by firemen and scouts who were on their way to a museum

Steel discloses pact talks

By George Hill

Labour Party leaders and "members of the Government" have talked informally with Liberals about coalition possibilities if no one party has a majority after the next election, Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, said, in a television interview last night.

Asked whether there had been any discussion between the parties, Mr Steel replied: "Not in any formal sense at all, no, but of course politicians are human beings, most of them, and we do therefore talk from time to time, but not in any conspiratorial way."

Interviewed by Mr Peter Jay on Channel Four's *A Week in Politics*, Mr Steel denied that any meeting of any kind had been held on the subject. But it had come up in "normal political conversation" with "backbenchers, even members of the Government, people who were associated obviously with me at the time of

the Lib-Lab pact, a whole range of people."

Pressed by Mr Jay to give an assurance that the Liberals would not be induced to enter an agreement with Labour but without the Social Democrats, Mr Steel refrained from making an unconditional commitment.

"Obviously you can never use the word never in politics, except in a very short reign," he said. "But I find it inconceivable that we would have any kind of agreement without the SDP. It would almost be a betrayal of the campaign on which we had fought the election."

Projections of the possible share of seats held by the different parties after an election showed that the Liberals might hold many more seats than the SDP, Mr Jay said.

Mr Kinnoch's attacks on Dr Owen were a "foolish obstacle

to what could be a necessary process of co-operation after an election," Mr Steel said. "He need not try to pretend as he has done in speeches, to say, well, the Liberals are somehow legitimate and the SDP is not. He is not going to succeed in driving a wedge between us on that personal basis."

Mr Steel confirmed Dr Owen's statement that if the Alliance found itself in third place in a hung parliament, it would talk first to the largest single party. "We begin by talking to the person who commands the greatest support in the country. But the actual end agreement has got to depend on what are the policy contents."

"The party that has obtained the most support from the electorate is of course the one with the initiative in their hands, and it would be quite wrong for us to ignore that and to talk to the second party."

Commuters injured in train crash

Continued from page 1

The Gatwick train would have rounded a bend just before the station, a British Rail spokesman said, so that its speed would have been somewhat below the 40 mph limit imposed at that point.

British Rail had started an internal inquiry and an accident inspector from the Department of Trade and Industry had visited the scene. There was no indication at this stage of any reason for the accident.

A British Rail spokesman said experts were trying to discover why the two trains were by platform five at the same time and on the same track. Possible causes of the accident were signal failure, brake failure or driver error, he said.

In one carriage of the East Grinstead train, a party of seven Scouts was travelling to London for a day at the Science Museum.

One of them, Russell Peters, aged 12, said: "The train was moving slowly; there was a great big bang and the person in front shot about two feet into the air and came down on my knee. There was blood everywhere. I heard some crying and screaming."

Several of the Scouts were injured; the others got out their first aid kits and treated their companions and other passengers as best they could, Russell said.

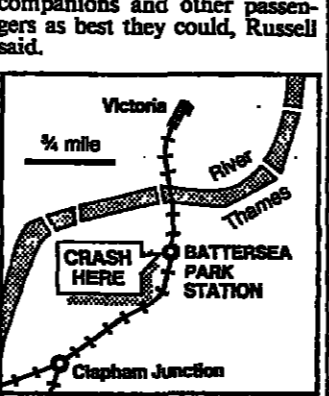
All police cells were cleared of remand prisoners on December 30, 1983, but they were back again by January 3, and there was a record of 260 prisoners held in the underground cells in February last year.

A Home Office spokesman said last night that numbers were low at present, but 106 had been held in police cells during a prison officers' dispute at the end of April. At the start of last month there were 65 remand prisoners in police custody, and the latest available figure, for May 22, was 17 prisoners.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour chairman of the all-party parliamentary penal affairs group, has been told that £200 was the average cost per prisoner per night in metropolitan police cells for the last financial year.

But he pointed out last night that the Dorchester charge for a single room was £120 a night, while the Inn on the Park charged £136.85, and the Hilton International charged £143.75.

The MP, a member of Labour's frontbench home affairs team, said that Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, had promised in July 1983 that the practice of remanding unconvicted and unsentenced prisoners to police cells would be ended by the start of last year.



The Juggernaut debate Lorry firms back 44-tonners

By Michael Baily Transport Editor

Britain's lorry companies will press for a six-tonne rise in lorry weights to 44 tonnes when the issue comes up for negotiation in Brussels in two years.

That is in direct conflict with Government assurances that Britain's lorry weight will not rise above its present level of 38 tonnes and is sure to arouse fierce opposition from conservation groups.

The rest of Europe is due to rise to a common 40 tonnes next year but Britain and the Irish Republic have exemptions which are due for renegotiation in February 1987.

Britain will then come under pressure from other EEC countries to rise to 40 tonnes because they see the 38-tonne limit as discrimination against their vehicles visiting the UK.

But Mr Anthony Fraser, director of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, said yesterday that the 40 tonne

Country	Max permitted in tonnes
Scandinavia	50-52
Holland	50
Italy	44
Belgium	40
UK	38
Ireland	38
FR Germany	38
France	38
Greece	38

Source: Freight Transport Association

much of the damage to motorways, which is causing such congestion and concern, is due to the extra weight of lorries," Mr Davoll said. "Historic towns are being damaged, and on motorway roads the situation is even worse. Road surfaces and underground gas mains are being damaged, and the lorries do not even pay for the damage they cause."

Britain has been "vibrantly strongly opposed" to heavy lorries than other European countries, and there was strong opposition when Mr David Howell, the then Secretary of State for Transport, succeeded in pushing the higher 38 tonnes limit through Parliament three years ago.

Opinion in industry is divided over the respective merits of 40 and 44 tonnes, though few favour 38.

The 40-tonner needs an extra axle over the 38 which adds to the cost to a £35,000 lorry.

limit was a "nonsense" because it was actually less cost effective than 38 tonnes. The industry had made a case for 44 tonne with perfect logic five years ago but had been defeated. A campaign is to be launched to show people that the 44 tonne vehicle was beneficial.

Such moves would be "very strongly opposed," Mr John Davoll, director of the Conservation Society said last night.

"The evidence shows that

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Artist of the Mid-West tops £1m

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Another American artist moved into the million-dollar class at Sotheby's in New York on Thursday. Grant Wood's "Arbor Day" of 1932 was sold for \$1,375,000 (estimate \$1 million to \$1.5 million), or £1,082,677.

He is the great limner of the Mid-West, depicting simple country scenes with hard-edged naivety. Most famous is his portrait of a farmer and his daughter with a pitchfork, entitled "American Gothic".

He developed the style in about 1930 and died in 1942, so such works are rare. Sotheby's had two yesterday, both of which had belonged to King Vidor, the Hollywood director and producer, and were sent for sale by his family.

"Arbor Day" shows a school-teacher and her pupils planting a tree outside their new clapboard school house. The second, "January" shows snow heaped against corn stalks with snow rabbit and bird tracks in the snow. A rather bare and severe work, it failed to sell at \$625,000 (estimate \$690,000 to \$800,000).

Only three American artists have exceeded the million mark at auction, Winslow Homer, Charles Sheeler and Frederick Church. The identity of the purchaser of the Grant Wood was not disclosed.

The sale of American paintings totaled £6.6 million, with 29 per cent unsold. Sotheby's had a rash of new auction price records for individual artists. Among them the Grant and the \$627,000 (estimate \$400,000 to \$600,000) or £493,701, for a

Frederick Remington oil, "An Assault on his Dignity".

Most of the unsold lots were among the nineteenth-century offerings: the Impressionist and turn-of-the-century works were in strong demand, reflecting perhaps a shift in taste.

A particularly attractive "On the Lake, Central Park", of about 1894, by William Merritt Chase set an auction price record for Chase at \$473,000 (estimate \$200,000, or £272,441, and "Cafe de la Paix" an evocative Paris interior of 1905, did the same for Richard Emil Miller at \$275,000 (estimate \$225,000 to \$275,000), or £216,535.

Across town, Christie's were selling Latin American paintings and sculpture for a total of £1.7 million, but with 30 per cent unsold.

£350m town unveiled for Chatham dock

A £350 million redevelopment of the former Chatham dockyard in Kent, which closed three years ago, was unveiled yesterday.

The heart of the project will be a yacht marina with fingers of housing jutting out along the waterside. There will be a shopping centre, primary school, sports centre, restaurants and public houses.

English Estates, the government-backed developers, say it will create more than 5,000 jobs and take eight years to complete. The architect, M. Michael Coombes, said: "We will be creating a town of its own which does not close down at 6pm like

an industrial estate."

Most of the funding for the 1,000 houses and industrial units will come from the private sector. There will be high-tech, commercial and research industries.

A museum will be created on 80 acres of the 430-acre site and will be run by a trust.

Prince praises inner city scheme

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

The Royal Institute of British Architects' first inner city initiative, to help revive the St Mary's Street area of Southampton, got under way last night with a message of support from the Prince of Wales.

In his message, the Prince said: "My view is that you are tackling one of the major problems of our lifetime, that of making our cities good places to live and work in, and above all, places in which a sense of community can flourish."

The RIBA has set up a Community Urban Design Assistance Team (CUDAT), at the invitation of people who live and work in the area. It is

modelled on an American scheme which has led to a renaissance of inner city neighbourhoods.

The first CUDAT team, which has been studying the area for five months, comprises an architect, planner, sociologist, economist, traffic engineer and administrator. It is working with the St Mary's Street Group, which includes the residents' association, local traders, schoolteachers, ward councillors and members of the city's planning department.

During the next two days it will examine such issues as development, housing, roads and parking, and social issues, when evidence will be submitted

to the community. The team will tour the area this afternoon and present its recommendations to the public tomorrow.

At a public meeting last night to launch the initiative, Mr Richard Burton, chairman of the team, described St Mary's Street as "typical of many inner urban areas which are struggling to make themselves into a 'good place to live and work'."

"There is nothing dramatic here but there is a lack of sense or feeling of community 'heart', there are misunderstandings and feelings of alienation at times. But it has great potential

Tories split on wage council abolition

Barrie Clement Labour Reporter

A split among leading Conservatives emerged yesterday as the Tory Reform Group called for reform rather than abolition of wages councils, which protect 2.7 million low paid workers.

The group, which has Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, as a president, and Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, as one of its four patrons, has written to Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, constituting the main thrust of the Government's consultative document on the councils.

A Green Paper, published in March, leans heavily towards abolition, a posture endorsed on Thursday by the Institute of Directors, which has enjoyed a close relationship with the Prime Minister.

The Tory reformers emphasize that there is little evidence wages councils jeopardize employment or price young people out of work. The group argues they have tended to improve industrial relations, stabilize industries vulnerable to under cutting of labour costs and provide a safety net for low paid workers.

But Mrs Thatcher and the Cabinet hardliners believe the councils are a barrier to increased employment and create an unacceptable burden on businesses.

The reform group believes adjustments to the councils' functions are favoured by most employers.

If the Government continues to "whittle away" the statutory provisions which underpin contracts of employment it says, the incentive to join a union in order to obtain collective protection is bound to be increased "and that may well encourage a resurgence in union influence which, it is assumed, is not the purpose of the proposal."

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Deadline passes for rate rebels

By Hugh Cayton, Local Government Correspondent

Four rebel councils defied a supposedly final deadline yesterday and failed to set rates in time to fend off threats of penalties from auditors. But with 16 of the original 20 rebel Labour authorities effectively out of the race, it was not clear how long the rest would last.

It was also unclear in the exchanges of rhetoric whether the imminent action promised by auditors would go beyond inspecting the books. There is no chance of any rebel councillor being immediately discharged because the deadline is simply because the deadline of the end of May has passed.

Southwark surrendered to government demands early yesterday at its tenth rate meeting. Islington was expected to do the same last night after a close vote in favour of rate fixing by its local government committee on Thursday.

That leaves four of which Liverpool is the only one not to have booked a meeting for next week. The city's revenue-flow has been delayed by late rate fixing last year so that its councillors are not immediately at risk of action to recover losses.

In London, Camden has a combined Labour and Conservative majority ready to set a rate. Greenwich has quietly stopped using its demand for spending concessions as a pretext for delaying rate fixing. Lambeth is being kept in the race by its mayor's casting vote.

English shire Conservatives are wooing Welsh independent councillors in the hope of salvaging control of the Association of County Councils. Late figures of shire representation show that the Conservatives have lost control for the first time since the organization was founded 96 years ago. It is one of local government's main bargaining bodies with ministers.

Courts system to be computerized

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Important decisions on computerizing the legal system are expected to be taken within six months.

The aim will be to speed its operation by making information more easily retrievable and reducing the amount of paper work traditionally associated with the law. Electronic communication will also avoid postal delays.

Millions of pounds are expected to be invested in equipment during the next five years.

Discussions involving the police, barristers, solicitors and the courts are taking place within the Lord Chancellor's Department.

British Telecom is to report to the Law Society by the end of next month on which system would suit the profession best for immediate use.

By September, medium and long-term plans will be recommended to the society concerning systems yet to be developed.

After a meeting called by Sir Derek Oulton, Permanent Sec-

retary to the Lord Chancellor, with representatives of the Bar, Law Society and Society for Computers and the Law, proposals on computerization of the courts are expected. A working party is expected to consider proposals.

The civil division of the Court of Appeal has been computerized since last October and the Lord Chancellor's Department is considering a system for the criminal division which uses Eurolex, a retrieval system, to make available details of sentence levels and their adjustments on appeal. The aim is to create greater uniformity.

Experiments are being carried out at crown courts in London, Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, with computers in administration.

After the establishment of an information technology division within the Lord Chancellor's Department, a study on writing the courts for new technology will be completed by the end of next month.

Top hotels cost less than cells

From Anthony Bevins Political Correspondent

The cost of keeping remand prisoners in police cells exceeds the charges of London's top hotels, including the Dorchester, the Inn on the Park and the Hilton International.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour chairman of the all-party parliamentary penal affairs group, has been told that £200 was the average cost per prisoner per night in metropolitan police cells for the last financial year.

But he pointed out last night that the Dorchester charge for a single room was £120 a night, while the Inn on the Park charged £136.85, and the Hilton International charged £143.75.

The MP, a member of Labour's frontbench home affairs team, said that Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, had promised in July 1983 that the practice of remanding unconvicted and unsentenced prisoners to police cells would be ended by the start of last year.

All police cells were cleared of remand prisoners on December 30, 1983, but they were back again by January 3, and there was a record of 260 prisoners held in the underground cells in February last year.

A Home Office spokesman said last night that numbers were low at present, but 106 had been held in police cells during a prison officers' dispute at the end of April. At the start of last month there were 65 remand prisoners in police custody, and the latest available figure, for May 22, was 17 prisoners.

Russian was 'military spy'

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Vyacheslav Grigorov, the senior Aeroflot official who was expelled from Britain for spying two months ago, had been working for Soviet military intelligence (GRU), it was claimed yesterday.

He had been one of between 30 and 40 GRU officers in London, who use the Russian airline and Morflot, the Russian mercantile marine, as well as the Soviet embassy, as cover for

espionage, according to a Soviet defector in a BBC Radio 4 interview.

The defector, a former GRU agent who has changed identity since fleeing to Britain six years ago, said that the KGB, the civilian intelligence organization, concentrated more on tourist, the Russian tourist agency, and Tass, the news agency, in London.

June payout £11,280,550

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W-am share outst

Wider ban forsmok

Transport for accept

Crooner warns of cosmetics fire dangers

Test on e

TV-am captures bigger share of viewers to outstrip BBC rival

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

TV-am now has more than twice as many viewers as *Breakfast Time*, its BBC rival, and the company is expected to register a modest profit next year.

The station nearly founded on several occasions after its launch in February 1983. During its lowest point, two years ago, it was attracting an average of only three minutes viewing per week, compared with *Breakfast Time's* 15 minutes.

But the latest figures from the *British Audience Research Bureau* show that in April, TV-am had 67 per cent of the weekday audience, and overall the public's viewing of breakfast television had risen considerably. In the same month the average viewing time of TV-am was 26 minutes per week, and that of *Breakfast Time*, 13 minutes.

The growing domination of viewing by the commercial station is fuelling speculation about changes. TV-am, which is expected to raise between £28 million a year in advertising revenue, may seek a listing on the Unlisted Securities Market next year.

At the same time there is expectation that *Breakfast Time* will be revamped. The corporation has been criticized in a number of quarters for spending its resources on setting up a breakfast service to rival TV-am.

Sources at the BBC deny that the programme faces any changes, and cite the corporation's willingness to keep it going at its present audience levels, as part of the BBC's refusal to be led by a ratings war.

However, many BBC journalists expect senior managerial changes in news and current affairs in the next few weeks, as a result of dissatisfaction with parts of the corporation's output and the decision to TV-am's interview with Princess Michael.

TV-am's shareholders are due to hear next week that the company has made a small loss in the current financial year and still has debts of around £20 million. But with advertising buoyant, and the company's audiences rising, a profit seems almost certain for next year, if costs are contained. Discussions on a new 10 per cent pay claim from the Association for Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians start shortly.

TV-am dismissed as "pure speculation" yesterday plans for a USM flotation next year, but it is understood that the move will go ahead if the present promising trend is continued. A minimum of three balance sheets is required before the company may make an application to join the USM, which means that a float would not occur before next June.

BREAKFAST TELEVISION WEEKDAY VIEWING LEVELS

1984	BBC TV-am	1984	BBC TV-am
	% share		% share
January	50	September	42
February	50	October	42
March	51	November	40
April	45	December	34
		1985	
May	48	January	36
June	48	February	35
July	48	March	34
August	50	April	33

Source: BARB/AGL



Ruth Madoc (Maria) and Michael Denison (Sir Toby Belch) who open in *Twelfth Night* at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, on Monday (Photograph: Martin Mayer)

Joseph firm on GCSE courses next year

From Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent, Scarborough

The new General Certificate in Secondary Education examination for pupils aged 16 to replace the O levels and CSE tests is urgently needed and will go ahead as planned, with the first courses beginning in September next year, Sir Keith Joseph told the head teachers yesterday.

There was no question of postponing the reform, he said. "The first examinations will be held in the summer of 1988. We owe it to the children in our schools to bring in this reform on time and to make a success of it."

Sir Keith was referring to representation made by the education committee of the Association of County Councils which asked for the reforms to be put back a year.

The local authorities have told Sir Keith that the change is happening too quickly and that they will not have time to introduce the new courses or retraining teachers required for the new examinations.

More than 150,000 teachers are to be retrained so that they will be able to assess pupils in the new examinations. About half the work in the new test is to be internally assessed by teachers.

Babies of jobless at risk from deprivation

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Babies born into families where there is unemployment face a greater risk of ill-health, poverty, debt and deprivation, according to a report published by the Maternity Alliance yesterday.

The report says that more than one million children are growing up in families hit by unemployment, and the poverty families can face with the extra costs of a baby can have effects stretching beyond childhood.

In spite of increasing unemployment, the impact on pregnant women and families with babies has so far been ignored, it says.

Financial worries far outstrip all others for the unemployed with young children, the report says, arguing that benefits are inadequate.

The report calls for the maternity grant to be raised to £130 for all families, for child benefit to be doubled, and for maternity allowance and unemployment benefit to be raised.

"Babies from poor families are particularly vulnerable during pregnancy and the first months of life and should not be expected to meet all the costs of an economic recovery fought with job losses", the report says.

Wider ban on adverts for smoking urged

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Cigarette advertising in women's magazines should be banned because of the rising deaths among females from smoking-induced diseases, according to a joint report by the British Medical Association and the Health Education Council.

The report calls for legislation to impose the ban and says that meanwhile the Advertising Standards Authority should prevent cigarette advertising in magazines whose largest readership group is aged under 25.

At least a million non-smokers in the 15 to 24 group are exposed to advertisements for cigarettes in women's magazines, in violation of government policy, the report says.

"The female smoking epidemic must be curtailed and we hope that readers will join us in pressing for an immediate end to all tobacco advertising and promotion," Dr John Howard, secretary of the BMA said yesterday. Editorial coverage of the hazards of smoking was likely to be compromised when magazines accepted cigarette advertising, he said.

The report says that only 37 per cent of British magazines had recently given wide coverage to the topic or were planning to do so. Some magazines which accepted cigarette advertising had also given good coverage to smoking and health.

"We tend not to cover it as a major issue", Mr Les Daly, editor of *Woman's World*, said.

Editors were adamant that they had complete editorial freedom irrespective of their policy on cigarette advertising.

Smoking-induced disease killed almost 33,000 women in Britain in 1983, the report says. "Smoking also imposes unique, increased risk for young women. Those who take the contraceptive pill and smoke have an increased risk of coronary heart disease and stroke."

"New evidence has also linked smoking to cancer of the cervix. Smoking is also known to harm the unborn baby and is linked to an earlier menopause", the report says.

Yesterday, the Department of Health issued new guidelines aimed at further restricting smoking on health service premises.

Test kits for family planning

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

A family planning aid that will prevent unwanted pregnancies and also help women who want to have a baby is being developed by two British companies.

Test kits which chemically monitor changes in hormone levels during the menstrual cycle can identify the day of ovulation and the fertile days of the month.

The kits are intended as an aid to contraception for those women who do not want to use the pill or other methods, but will also help couples who have difficulty in achieving pregnancy.

The test involves the use of a dipstick that changes colour in reaction to urine. Another version combines the use of a dipstick and a microcomputer to analyse hormone levels.

Details of the research behind the kits are reported in a television programme, *The Real World*, produced by TVS, to be screened on the independent network on Monday.

The Roman Catholic Church is likely to approve the kits as "a new scientific version of natural family planning".

Monsignor Michael Connelly, secretary of the Catholic Bishops' Bio-Ethical Committee, says in the programme.

The two versions of the kit are being developed by Boots Celltech Diagnostics, of Slough, and Unipath of Bedford. After clinical trials the kits should be commercially available before the end of the decade, company representatives said yesterday.

Air traffic records

By Michael Baily, Transport Editor

Record air passenger figures released by the British Airports Authority yesterday have put added pressure on the Government to expand Stansted airport.

Traffic through Heathrow last month reached an annual level of 30 million passengers. The airport has now reached capacity and the BAA said congestion which may inconvenience passengers this summer could be expected.

"These figures provide further evidence of the urgent need for more airport capacity in the South-east as soon as possible", a spokesman said.

Heathrow traffic was 10.4 per cent up on 27.2 million passengers in 1984, at Gatwick the rise was 10 per cent from 12.9 million to 14.2 million and at Stansted 46 per cent up from 371,000 to 542,000.

Windsor guardsman jailed for arson

A Grenadier Guardsman who was supposed to be guarding the Queen Mother's home to test security after a drinking bout, Southwark Crown Court was told yesterday.

Stephen Vallintine, aged 22, who was stationed at Windsor Castle, was distraught after discovering his homosexual tendencies and was constantly ribbed by his mates, Mr James Dawson, for the defence said.

He went on an "extended drinking binge" after an argument with a friend and broke into Clarence House in the Mall at 5am. Using his knowledge of the palace, which he had once guarded, Vallintine roamed the grounds before climbing into Marlborough House, Mr David Medhurst, for the prosecution said.

Inside, he set fire to piles of correspondence. "While the fire brigade were putting out the fires in some rooms Vallintine was starting fires in others", Mr Dawson said. "He has a history of heavy drinking. While in the Army he was sent on two detoxification courses and stopped drinking. He started again through the influence of colleagues in the Army."

Mr Dawson said Vallintine, who was stationed in Northern Ireland and West Germany, sought help from senior officers about his homosexual tendencies, but received none.

Vallintine, from Fulham, West London, who admitted committing arson on March 29, was jailed for three years.

Transport official jailed for accepting bribes

An official for a government-funded quango accepted bribes for 13 years to guarantee contracts for a car fleet supplier.

William Beynon, an Agricultural Training Board transport officer, received £50 for each car when the board renewed its fleet of up to 140 cars every two years. Between 1980 and 1982 he received a new Cortina and a second-hand Ford Cortina from Alan Taylor Motors, Ford dealers, Southwark Crown Court was told.

Between 1967 and 1980 Beynon recommended the contract to Taylor's of High Street, Wandsworth, south-west London. The gifts were in appreciation for the business.

Alan Taylor Motors had with the board, the court was told.

Beynon, aged 59, of Hempstead Road, Gillingham, Kent, admitted 10 charges of receiving money and gifts, and was jailed yesterday for 15 months.

A former partner in the garage, Howell Jones, aged 72, of Alexander Drive, Surbiton, south-west London, was jailed for nine months, suspended for two years, after he admitted seven charges of corruption. He was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £1,000 in legal costs.

John Grant, aged 32, a sales manager, of Elmwood Avenue, Kenton, Middlesex, was fined £500 after pleading guilty to two charges of bribing Beynon.

Wife confronted other woman with a gun

A woman who discovered that presents her husband had bought were not for her but for his mistress grabbed a gun and stormed off to confront the other woman the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mrs Christine Flashman, aged 45, of Bickley, Kent, was given a conditional discharge for a year after pleading guilty to illegally possessing a firearm, and was ordered to pay £39 compensation to Mrs Annette Field, aged 37, of Chelsfield, Kent, for breaking windows at her home.

Second man on murder charge

Mark Cleary, aged 19, of Bestwood Park Estate, Nottingham, was yesterday remanded in custody by Nottingham magistrates, charged with the murder of Wayne Keeton, aged 10.

Philip Atherton, aged 21, of Bestwood colliery village, is on remand on the same charge.

Fire death

Julie Ellison, aged 18, a cancer sufferer who survived a brain operation when she was eight and a leg amputation at 14, died in a fire yesterday at her home in Arden Close, Ainsdale, Merseyside.

Coroner warns of cosmetics' fire dangers

A girl aged 19 months set herself on fire playing with her mother's alcohol-based astringent make-up cleanser, an inquest at Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, was told yesterday.

Mr James Sowerby, aged 25, from Ambrosden, Oxfordshire, said he had found his daughter dead.

His wife, Julie, aged 23, said that she had forbidden the child and her other daughter, Stephanie, aged three, from playing with her make-up.

The coroner, Mr Rodney Corner, who was told that the liquid was ignited by a cigarette lighter, recorded a verdict of misadventure. He urged cosmetics manufacturers to print clear warnings on inflammable liquids.

Turbo diesel car claims record low consumption

The world's first turbo-charged diesel car with an engine capacity of less than one litre, goes on sale today (Our Motoring Correspondent writes). The Japanese Daihatsu Charade is claimed to be the most economical production car yet subjected to official Department of Transport tests averaging 77mpg at a steady 56mph.

The 56mpg consumption figure is generally acknowledged to be the most artificial form of testing. More reliable is the urban or mixed speed assessment, but even there the car averaged 57.2mpg.

The three-cylinder 993cc engine is power turbo boosted by 26 per cent, giving a top speed of 87mpg. It costs £25,699.

Test on driver in coach crash

French doctors were yesterday attempting to discover if the driver of the school coach which crashed, killing seven Britons, suffered a heart attack at the wheel.

A blood test was being carried out on the body of the driver, Mr Harry Hughes, aged 39, to determine how he died.

Yesterday, under the direction of a public prosecutor the French police were continuing their investigation into the crash and awaiting results of the blood test.

Police estimate the coach was travelling at about 75 mph, well above the speed limit, when it left the road.

Post-mortem examinations and inquests will also be held in England under the St Albans coroner, Dr Arnold Mendoza, it was confirmed yesterday.

Police Constable Richard English, a coroner's officer for St Albans police, said inquests would be opened probably next week in St Albans.

Mr English said: "We do not know if post-mortem examinations are being carried out in France, but we need a pathologist to come to the inquests to say what the cause of death was."

Several of the 39 survivors of the crash were taken back to Britain early yesterday, but four children and a teacher are still in Montpellier Hospital. The hospital said: "It looks as though they will all pull through."

Three children and a teacher, flown back to Britain early yesterday were fast asleep in a hospital near their homes in the St Albans area eight hours after they arrived last night; they were "doing comfortably".



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EUROPEAN CUP DISASTER Belgium ban ● Police to examine videos ● Grieving relatives arrive

Police film sent to Italy and Britain to identify and convict hooligans

From Ian Murray, Brussels

British and Italian police forces are being sent comprehensive sets of television films taken by the gendarmes during last Wednesday's violence at the European Cup Final.

The police are studying film taken of a green jacketed fan, apparently from among the Juventus crowd, who appeared to fire a hand gun at security forces during the fighting.

but two from Liverpool, held by the police or gendarmes. They are expected to appear in court on Tuesday, when the magistrate will decide whether to continue the cases against them.



Finger on the trigger: A spectator aiming a gun at police (left) and firing it (right). Photograph taken off television film.

Italians to ask for formal explanation

From Peter Nicholls, Rome

The Italian government is to call for formal explanations from the British and Belgian governments about the Brussels disaster.

At a cabinet meeting yesterday, Signor Bettino Craxi, the prime minister, expressed deep regret for the victims of the disaster, as well as "exacerbation and condemnation for the explosion of savage and criminal violence which provoked the horrible massacre."

Uefa hints Scotland may still compete

By Hugh Taylor

Strong hints that Scottish clubs would not be banned from playing in Europe came from the Swiss headquarters of Uefa yesterday.



Relatives of Italian victims arriving at Brussels airport.

Grieving relatives fly in to collect bodies

From Patricia Clough, Brussels

Those English are murderers, a dark thin man clutching his athen-faced sister said.

Riccardo Baldi, of Frato, who had lost a brother, said: "There is no point in vendettas. Signor Franco Martelli, who had come to identify a cousin, said his feelings towards the British were "not good, but I don't blame them all, only the ones who were here that night."

Beating of fan 'cause of tragedy'

The cause of the football disaster was a beating dealt to a lone Liverpool supporter in the predominantly Juventus held Z section at Heysel Stadium, a witness told Mrs Thatcher yesterday.

Belgium bans all British teams

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Soccer hooliganism is to be raised at the European summit meeting in Milan at the end of this month by Mr Wilfried Martens, the Belgian prime minister. He announced that yesterday after a cabinet meeting agreed to impose a total ban on all British football teams, from the international side to schoolboys, playing in Belgium until there were valid guarantees of good behaviour by their supporters.

government action to combat soccer hooliganism when he meets Mr Leo Tindemans, his Belgian opposite number, in Brussels today, a meeting long-scheduled to prepare for the Milan summit. The Belgian cabinet immediately agreed to impose the ban on British fans, which was asked for by Mr Charles-Ferdinand Nodding, the Interior Minister. Every football team was to be covered by the ban. "We cannot take the risk that among the supporters who come in good faith to watch a match there will not be hooligans who will cause trouble," Mr Martens said.

Archbishop sickened

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie, yesterday expressed his confidence in Liverpool and its young people to recover from the hooliganism disaster "it will be a jolt like this which, in the long term, has that effect," he said.

Howe mission

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday he would be doing all he could to restore Britain's image abroad after the harm caused by the Brussels disaster. He is to discuss the disaster with Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, in Brussels today.

Tight security

Herr Friedrich Zimmermann, the West German Interior Minister, has promised drastic security measures during the European football championships West Germany will host in 1988.

Italy hostility

A coach belonging to Applegate Supreme Coaches of Berkley, Gloucestershire, has suffered thousands of pounds of damage in Diano Marina during an attack by hostile Italians.

Supporters' club sure no NF members in party

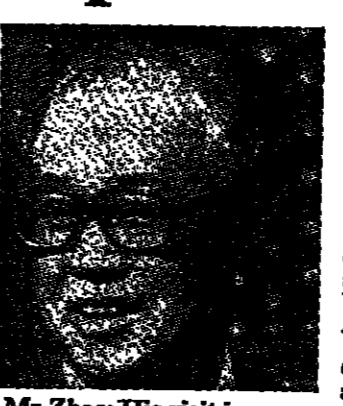
Mr Fred Septon, the secretary of the London branch of Liverpool FC Supporters Club, said yesterday that he was sure no National Front sympathizers had travelled with his group to Brussels (Robin Young writes).

Disqualification could mean big loss for teams

The loss to the six English clubs banned yesterday by the Football Association from competing in Europe next season could be hundreds of thousands of pounds, Clive White writes.

Chinese Premier arrives tomorrow Red carpet for Zhao

Premier Zhao Ziyang arrives in Britain tomorrow, the highest ranking Chinese leader to come here for six years, at the start of a week-long visit to which Mrs Margaret Thatcher is personally attaching great importance.



Mr Zhao: His visit is more than symbolic.

Exports to China (leading OECD countries) 1984 in \$ m

Table with 2 columns: Country, Exports (\$ m). Includes Japan (6,680), USA (2,860), West Germany (1,038), Canada (987), Australia (747), UK (432), Italy (380), France (312). Total OECD trade was \$14,100m.

Exports to China (leading OECD countries) 1984 in \$ m. The volume of imports to China rose by a quarter last year as Peking strove towards its target of quadrupling industrial and agricultural output by the end of the century - and Britain is desperately anxious to capitalize on its burgeoning relationship.

Dutch may hold key to papal plot

From Peter Nichols Rome

The hearings in the case against the eight Turks and Bulgarians accused of involvement in the 1981 attempt to murder the Pope are for the moment overshadowed by the question of the identity of the Turk under arrest in the Netherlands.

In fact the court will not sit until Monday. By then there may be genuine proof as to whether he is, as some Turkish reports suggest, Orak Celik, a Turkish outlaw and one of the principal accused in this trial.

Advertisement for Skipton Building Society. Features 'NEW RATES!' with 10.55% and 10.30% interest rates, and 'UNBEATABLE!' headline. Includes contact information and a form to request more details.

Delhi railway queen seeks higher station

Delhi (AP) - The sun has finally set on the railway station of a former Muslim queen. After 10 years of illegal royal squatting, she has moved to her new palace - a 600-year-old monument, but-infested decrepit.

Zimbabwe poll switch enrages opposition

Zimbabwe's opposition parties have unanimously condemned the sharply reduced countdown to the elections, introduced by the Government this week.

Delhi railway queen seeks higher station

Delhi (AP) - The sun has finally set on the railway station of a former Muslim queen. After 10 years of illegal royal squatting, she has moved to her new palace - a 600-year-old monument, but-infested decrepit.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Indians', 'Silk pro', 'Afghanistan peace talks to resume', and 'Alcohol in'.

Ershad's devolution policy helps him to outflank opposition Soldiers again prove their worth in an emergency

**From Michael Hamlyn
Dhaka**
Spending the night on the 3rd, storm-ravaged island of Uritchar, President Ershad of Bangladesh could permit himself a number of inward satisfactions.
Very little blame seems to be attaching to his Government for any lack of preparedness or lack of warning that the storm was coming. The cyclone was tracked and accurately forecast, there were cyclone shelters along the coast, there were protective embankments.
Though the Government was slow to realize the full horror of the damage and death toll, once communications were established with the coastal region the military forces reacted efficiently and humanely within their resources.
Officers are pleased to tell their visitors that they are good at handling emergencies and crises. Since the natural state of Bangladesh seems to be one of continual natural disaster, these skills, the soldiers feel, provide them with an essential role within Bengali society.
Last year's floods proved another example of their ability to cope with crisis, for despite the fact that they were a good deal worse than the famine-bringing floods of previous years not one person died of starvation.
Those floods also showed the

UK gives £700,000 for cyclone victims

Britain is giving a further £700,000 to help victims of the cyclone. Of this, £200,000 is for immediate disaster relief through British voluntary agencies and £500,000 for longer-term rehabilitation.
On Monday the High Commission in Dhaka made available £250,000 for immediate relief.
Six British charities launched a joint appeal yesterday for £1 million. Donations should be sent to Bangladesh Cyclone Appeal, Box 999, London EC4M 8DD.
Bradford council has given £15,000 to an appeal. The city has about 6,000 Bangladeshis.
The UN World Food Programme said in Rome it will spend \$111.4 million (£56 million) on building flood barriers and irrigation canals.
In Bangladesh disaster officials said most of the 10,000 victims were probably children.

General Ershad's satisfaction will also include the fact that the *upazillas* have enabled him to outflank, and outmanoeuvre, Bangladesh's divided opposition.
When the opposition parties categorically refused to have anything to do with parliamentary or presidential elections under his control, he reacted by holding elections for *upazilla* chairmen.
The bad news for the political parties is that despite their official boycott of the elections, since they were held on a non-party basis, the newly elected chairmen cannot be described as Ershad hacks. Nor, however, are they in any way bound to the political parties, though some of them are members.
How things develop depends very much on how much power is devolved to this new breed of politician.
This is one reason why the efforts at devolution in, for example, Sri Lanka have failed. The central politicians, the MPs, have been wholly unwilling to part with any serious share in this patronage.
The acid test will come at the end of this month when General Ershad will present his budget.
Funds allocated to the *upazilla* will have to increase this year to pay for increased salaries already agreed. If the funds allocated are more than is needed to cover continuing



Helping hand: President Ershad giving saris to cyclone survivors on Uritchar island.

Sri Lankans queue for UK visas

**From A Correspondent
Colombo**

Sri Lankans have been flocking to the British High Commission here to get visas since the Home Secretary, Mr. Leon Brittan, insisted they would need entry permits after May 30.

Yesterday a crowd of about 200 waited outside the closed gates while security personnel stood by. Ten people were allowed in at a time. A single counter to give and receive forms created frustration but a High Commission official said visa section staff would be increased if the crowds continued.

The business community believe the move is an inconvenience to those who visit Britain regularly.

The Tamil United Liberation Front in Colombo said it did not encourage an exodus.

The Government, however, seemed pleased with Britain's attitude and Mr Brittan's statement that the British Government does not believe all Tamils in Sri Lanka are being persecuted.

There is optimism that tomorrow's Deed summit between President Jayewardene and the Indian Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi, pave the way for a solution to the crisis.

GENEVA: High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Paul Hartling, is expected to ask Britain not to send Tamil refugees back to Sri Lanka when he meets Mr Brittan in London on Wednesday.

Geneva gesture

US wants to alter missile treaty

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The United States has proposed discussions with the Soviet Union on revising the 1972 anti-ballistic missile (ABM) treaty if research shows that President Reagan's "Star Wars" plan is workable.

Mr Paul Nitze, the President's top arms control adviser, said on Thursday that the offer was made during the first round of the Geneva arms control talks, which began in March. It would be resubmitted during the second round, which got under way on Thursday.

The ABM treaty permits non-nuclear space weapons to shoot down incoming nuclear missiles. Moscow is bitterly opposed to the Star Wars research project and using it to block progress in Geneva on strategic and intermediate-range nuclear missiles.

Mr Nitze, who helped to negotiate the 1972 treaty, said it was "a loving accord" that could be amended to permit the development of space weapons.

The Kremlin could not veto Star Wars by refusing to allow revision of the treaty, he said, and urged it to take up "the most detailed exchange on offence-defence relationship since 1972".

Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, told a press conference that the Soviet Union had been "vigorously and quietly" carrying out research for more than 16 years "looking towards the development and deployment of a Strategic Defence Initiative that would have the effect of making our missiles impotent and useless".

Meanwhile, President Reagan is delaying at least until next week a decision on whether to continue abiding by the provisions of the unratified 1979 Salt nuclear arms treaty, which expires at the end of this year.

Officials said he was leaning in favour of adhering to it "reluctantly and with qualifications", as long as the Soviet Union did not undercut it.

Pole denies Walesa plot

Warsaw, (Reuter, AP) - A convicted murderer who said he had been recruited to kill Mr Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, has told Polish state television that he invented the story after watching crime films.
In an interview, apparently made in his prison cell, Jozef Szczepanski, aged 34, said he

had hoped for a full pardon when inventing his story.
The Warsaw prosecutor's office said his statement would have to be investigated.

Mr Walesa said he was doubtful about Szczepanski's denial of the murder plot. "I would be very happy if it was true."

Troops sent to Punjab

Indians braced for Sikh protest week

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi

Punjab and Delhi are uneasy on the eve of "Genocide Week", which the Sikhs in India will observe in the first week of June in protest at Operation Blue Star, the military action a year ago in the Golden Temple at Amritsar.

As a precaution the Government has deployed more troops in Punjab, reversing the gradual pull-out over the last six months of army personnel sent in on June 1, 1984, to clear the Golden Temple premises, where Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his extremist supporters had taken asylum.

The frontiers with Pakistan in Punjab, Rajasthan and Jammu and Kashmir have been sealed to check infiltration. According to official sources, the paramilitary forces, Border Security Force and Central Reserve Police Force, manning the borders, have been directed to intensify vigilance.
The Sikh leaders have given a call for a "peaceful observance" of the Operation Blue Star anniversary. But it is believed that terrorists are planning acts of violence to mark the anniversary in their own way: killing of VIPs, poisoning of water tanks and wells and derailment of trains are some of the ominous possibilities mentioned.

The Hindus in Punjab are not taking things lightly and are prepared to hit back.
Rioting in Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana and Dhariwal, the three key towns in Punjab, a few days ago was essentially communal

and the property of Sikhs was looted and burnt by Hindus, after the killing of several Hindus by terrorists in Hindu-majority areas.

Mr Harchand Singh Longowal, a moderate, who had submitted his resignation from the presidency of the Akali Dal, the Sikhs' political party, has come back to office with the approval of an overwhelming majority of Sikhs. The district Akali officials, *janets*, have rallied round him, to the chagrin of Joginder Singh, Bhindranwale's father, now leading the extremists.

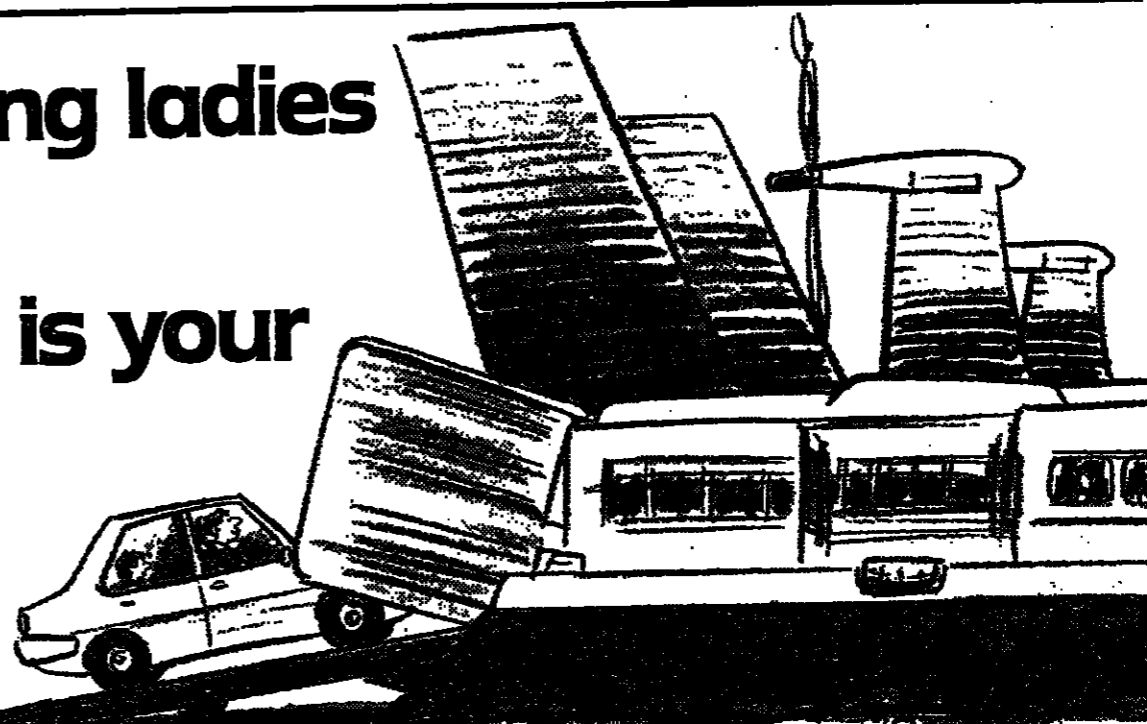
However, the battle between the two is only just begun and the extremists are hopeful that their quest for Khalistan, a separate Sikh nation, will ultimately bring the Sikh masses to their side.

Mr Longowal has openly avowed faith in India's integrity and has appealed for Hindu-Sikh amity. The way the Sikhs have so far responded to his call assures him - and the Government - that moderation will prevail in the end.

But much blood may yet be spilt, for the extremists, who have gained much influence among Sikh youth, seem ready to show their strength and have threatened to kill dissenters. This has made many moderate Sikh leaders waver for instance Mr Prakash Singh Badal, the former Punjab minister, once a staunch supporter of Mr Longowal. This trend could harm Mr Longowal - and the cause of moderation.

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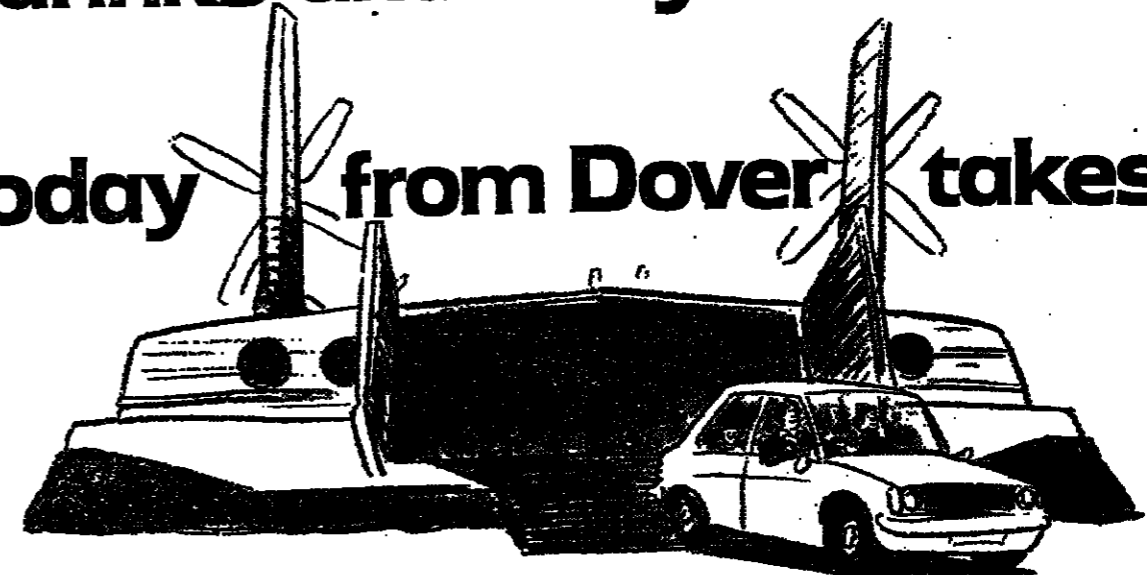
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Afghanistan peace talks to resume

Islamabad (Reuter) - Pakistan and Afghanistan will resume talks on ways to end the Afghan war in Geneva on June 19 or June 20 but tension between the superpowers still clouds the dialogue. General, Senior Diego Cordovez, said yesterday at the end of two days of consultations in Islamabad and three in Kabul.

Senior Cordovez hinted that both sides had changed their positions since the unsuccessful last round in August 1984 but gave no details.

Pakistan and Afghanistan have been holding indirect talks since June 1982 aimed at securing the withdrawal of 115,000 Soviet troops from Afghanistan and the repatriation of about 4.5 million Afghan refugees from Pakistan and Iran.

The talks, in which Senior Cordovez shuttles between the two delegations in Geneva because Islamabad does not recognize the Kabul Government, have been deadlocked since they broke down in June 1983.

MP breaks ranks for first time

**From Harry Debelius
Madrid**

Socialist Party discipline in the Spanish Parliament was broken for the first time since the last election when Señor Nicolas Redondo, leader of the Socialist-orientated General Labour Union (UGD), cast the only vote against a Government proposal to make pension cuts to save the social security system from bankruptcy.

Another Socialist MP, Señor Ricardo Damborenea, who had said earlier that he would not let Señor Redondo stand alone, walked out of the chamber before the vote was taken on Thursday evening.

Several Socialist MPs who also hold key posts in the UGD voted with the party. It remains to be seen whether they will take part, as union leaders are demanding, in a demonstration here against the pension reforms next Thursday.

Terrorism in northern Spain has claimed three more victims. A factory guard was shot dead at Marquina, near Bilbao, on Thursday evening.

Alcohol 'in Bulow comas'

**From Trevor Fishlock
New York**

A British medical specialist, giving evidence for the defence of Mr Claus von Bulow, said alcohol was a factor in both of Mrs Martha von Bulow's comas.

The prosecution alleges that Mr von Bulow, aged 57, tried to kill his wealthy wife with insulin injections.

Dr Vincent Marks, an endocrinologist and authority on

hypoglycaemia, or low blood sugar, said in court at Providence, Rhode Island, that the first coma was caused by low blood sugar and a lack of oxygen in the brain.

Of the second coma, he said: "She suffered gross hypothermia (low body temperature), which would have been sufficient to cause the coma, and the reason for this was probably alcohol. This was also associated with alcohol-induced hypoglycaemia."

ایران، کوئین

Botha threatens to go it alone in Namibia after Angola breaks links

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Angola has informed South Africa, through American channels, that it intends to break off all negotiations with Pretoria, according to the South African Foreign Minister, Mr R F "Pik" Botha.

Reagan supports Unita

In what seems a curious piece of timing if Washington hopes to retain any influence with Angola, President Reagan has given his blessing to a conference of anti-communist guerrilla groups being held this weekend in south-eastern Angola.

South Africa, he said, was still prepared to honour its commitment to grant independence to Namibia in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 435 "provided a firm agreement can be reached on Cuban withdrawal".

In Parliament on April 26, Mr Botha gave a warning that if a Cuban withdrawal no longer seemed negotiable, South Africa had the right to, unilaterally, terminate its presence and Administration in South West Africa (Namibia).

Later this month, Pretoria will take what could be seen as a major step towards unilateral independence for Namibia by inaugurating a new local administration with a wide range of legislative and executive powers, excluding defence and foreign affairs.

Scorpion with a nasty sting in his tale

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

"Scorpion" a pale, emaciated pig farmer from rural Poland, is on trial for his life accused of being one of the cruellest sex criminals in the history of the Soviet bloc, an East European variant of the Yorkshire Ripper.

late from nightshift, partygoers who had missed the last bus home: in all, "Scorpion" alias Tuchin, is alleged to have sexually assaulted and mutilated at least 20 young women, killing nine.

case waterproof, has at last begun. The last notorious sex criminal, the so-called "Kawecze Vampire", managed to slip out of a number of charges because of faulty police procedures, and the authorities are determined not to repeat the mistakes.

unconscious with his hammer, mutilating her face, raping her and then killing her, he raided her shopping bag and prepared a meal for himself on the dusty roadside. He stole wedding rings from the victims and had them adapted for his second wife and himself.

Years after the attack, some are still in hospital, close to death: Others are crippled, hideously disfigured; one is deaf, another is wracked by nervous convulsions.



Back to Beirut: President Gemayal (left) and President Assad at Damascus airport. The Lebanese leader returned to his capital yesterday with speculation growing that Syria will send troops to stop the fighting.

Arab pitted against Arab leaves UN in paralysis

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The images of the 1982 massacre of Palestinian refugees at Sabra and Chatila are reasserting themselves in the confrontation between the PLO and Amal, the most powerful Shia militia in Lebanon.

caused acute embarrassment, particularly among members of the Third World, who would rather not address the problem in a public forum.

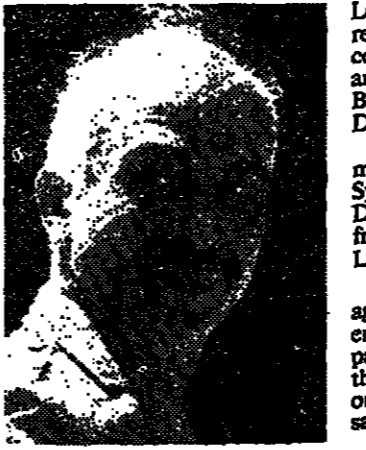
According to diplomatic observers, the rift within the PLO and the seeming inability of Mr Yassir Arafat, the chairman, to make a full commitment to the negotiating process promoted by King Husain of Jordan, have served to blight the public support of the Palestinian Cause once enjoyed.

The position of the PLO now and three years ago is a study in contrast. Once enjoying uncontested power at the UN, it has lost its voice almost entirely.

Israel's total rebuff to Husain

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, has rejected out of hand King Husain's call for an international conference to consider the Arab-Israeli conflict. He dismissed the King's proposal, made to President Reagan in Washington, as "nothing more than a device to evade direct negotiations with Israel".



King Hussein: Accused of evading negotiations.

Lebanon. It said the offer of refuge was made by the commander of the Libyan armed forces, Brigadier Abu-Bakr Yunus, during a visit to Damascus, on Thursday.

"It appears that there is a plot against the Palestinian existence, in which some Arab parties are involved. Whether they know or not, they serve only the Zionist enemy," Jana said.

International conference rejected

The Prime Minister, speaking during a visit to Acre where he was made an honorary citizen, said an international Conference would serve no useful purpose.

Le Monde's rescue plan backed

From Our Correspondent, Paris

A radical plan to save Le Monde from bankruptcy was approved yesterday by an overwhelming majority of the newspaper's shareholders.

Swiss sentence crash pilots

Geneva (Reuters) - Two airline pilots were given jail sentences for involuntary manslaughter in a crash in which 36 passengers died near the Portuguese island of Madeira.

Nicaraguan bananas for EEC

Brussels - The European Commission signed a "Banana" agreement with Nicaragua here which will go a small way towards making up for the damage the country is losing as a result of the embargo introduced last month by President Reagan.

Painter's prize

Oviedo (AP) - The Spanish painter Antonio Lopez Garcia was awarded the 1985 Prince of Asturias Art Prize, one of Spain's highest honours. The prize, which consists of two million pesetas (€10,000) and a sculpture designed by the Spanish artist Joan Miró, is presented annually by the Prince of Asturias Foundation.

Muldoon's act

Wellington (AP) - New Zealand's former Prime Minister, Sir Robert Muldoon, said he was drawing on his political skills to play a new role, as a "tough guy" in a children's television drama.

Pipeline blast

Frankfurt (AP) - A bomb damaged a pumping station of a Nato pipeline which serves the US Air Force Rhein-Main air base near here, police said. The blast destroyed electrical equipment in the pumping station but the underground pipeline itself was not damaged.

Lift mishap

Paris - One person died from a heart attack and two others suffered serious injuries when a lift in a building here slipped from its hinges and fell 11 floors. An inquiry has been opened into the cause of the accident.

Plotter to die

Nairobi - Kenyan Air Force private Hezekiah Okhulua, who led an abortive coup attempt here in 1982, lost his appeal against the death sentence for treason.

Greeks rest before tomorrow's poll

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Seven million Greek voters are being given a day of quiet reflection and meditation today before polling begins in the general election at sunrise tomorrow.

conservatives to remain out of power. Not unnaturally, people who would never want to be seen at political meetings turned out en masse with their well-groomed families, waving party flags and singing New Democracy's catchy songs.

Campaign meetings are banned, loudspeakers are switched off and the distribution of leaflets becomes an offence. Television programmes revert to the usual advertising and the less relevant faces of Dynasty and The Winds of War.

A confusing voting system, combined with calculations that victory could be secured even by a single vote - since the party in the lead would be entitled to a bonus of 10 to 15 seats - is impelling the parties to ensure that every voter turns up.

Admiral fired over ashtrays

Washington (NYT) - Mr Caspar Weinberger, the US Defence Secretary, announced that three US Navy officers, including an admiral with 33 years' service, are being relieved of their duties because a supply depot under their command paid the Grumman Aerospace Corporation \$659 (\$519 for each of seven aircraft ashtrays.

The images of the 1982 massacre of Palestinian refugees at Sabra and Chatila are reasserting themselves in the confrontation between the PLO and Amal, the most powerful Shia militia in Lebanon.

The Prime Minister, speaking during a visit to Acre where he was made an honorary citizen, said an international Conference would serve no useful purpose.

Iranians denounce Beirut battles as an American-Israeli plot

From Robert Fisk, Tehran

Branding the Beirut battles between Palestinians and Shia Muslim militiamen as "a plot of American and Israeli", the Iranians have sent a delegation of senior religious and government officials to Lebanon to try to prevent a future conflict between groups whom they believe should be allied in war against Israel.

In a mood of jubilation as well as impatience, the Iranian press has been suggesting that both Palestinians and the Amal Shia Muslim forces "suffer from deficient leadership".

Mr Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, has been criticised in Tehran for his own role in the Beirut fighting although Ayatollah Hussein Ali Montazeri told a group of Lebanese Shia clergy men here this week that the Palestinians should not have their weapons taken away and "all combatants should be

armed against Israel in southern Lebanon". Both Amal and Syria insist that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) men in the Beirut camps should carry no guns.

The situation is a difficult one for Iran, which in the past has supported the PLO's struggle and has drawn enormous pride from the Shia Muslim resistance to Israeli occupation in southern Lebanon. Persistent rumours in Tehran that Syrian troops may return to Beirut have only further confused the issue.

Elysée hosts stars of human rights

From Diana Geddes, Paris

An unprecedented two-day international conference on human rights ended here yesterday amid accusations from both the French Communists and the main Opposition parties that it was nothing more than a "show-business spectacle" organized by the Government for purely political reasons.

as well as various other international figures associated with human rights and the arts. African poet Breiten Brytenbach and the Argentine pianist, Miguel Angel Estrella, both of whom spent several years as political prisoners in their countries, Kate Millett, the American feminist; Dom Heller Camara, the former Brazilian archbishop and human rights campaigner; Andre Stuyavsky, the Russian writer; and Alberto Moravia, the Italian novelist.

honour of the 200 participants, before attending a special opera musical ceremony at the Trocadero where he formally bestowed the esplanade in front of the horse shoe-shaped building as the *Parvis des Libertés et des Droits de l'Homme*.

AMERICA'S HOTTEST DEALS UNDER THE SUN!

Table with columns: RESTRICTION FROM, RESTRICTION FROM, RESTRICTION FROM, RESTRICTION FROM. Lists various countries and their respective restrictions.

Table with columns: AIRLINE, NO OF COUPONS, AIRFARE, AIRFARE, AIRFARE. Lists airlines and their respective fares.

Iranians denounce Beirut battles as an American-Israeli plot. From Robert Fisk, Tehran. Branding the Beirut battles between Palestinians and Shia Muslim militiamen as "a plot of American and Israeli", the Iranians have sent a delegation of senior religious and government officials to Lebanon to try to prevent a future conflict between groups whom they believe should be allied in war against Israel.

Vertical advertisements on the right margin, including "Making meetings", "David", and "Cost for..."

THE ARTS

Radio

Making a meet end

Two radio institutions have made an end this week, one sadly in the most final sense possible. The death of Roy Plomley concludes what must surely be the longest chapter of them all in the history of sound broadcasting.

Whether *Desert Island Discs*, his creation and his copyright, will vanish with him remains to be seen. Nobody could cavil if it did, for to a very great extent the man was the programme: his style of interviewing, unruffled and untrifling, largely made it what it was.

To some, of course, it all seemed unspeakably anodyne, typical of Radio 4 in its most Health and Home Service mood, where never was heard a discouraging word, let alone one that might admit the rough and tumble world outside.

Though Checkpoint could not begin to compete with *Desert Island Discs* in the way of longevity, it and its presenter, Roger Cook, had also put down deep roots among Radio 4 listeners before it ceased last week.

What a string of con-men and bent practitioners of every kind, of jacks-in-office and inert officials, the programme uncovered. Of the active criminals among them, a good few subsequently did time or became so well known to the police as to inconvenience them considerably.

All in all, *Checkpoint's* record points to a function which in our society badly needs to be performed, one in which, to judge by the experience it offers, the risks to the BBC are exceedingly low in relation to the public service provided.

It's Your World (Radio 4, Sundays) also made an end last week though after a relatively short career, a second run of eight weeks. I must confess that, if this joint Radio 4-World Service production performed a necessary function, I still do not see it. It may be something to get a row of international figures to the microphone, it may well be that some of them encounter questions of a kind which would not be put in public in the countries they inhabit.

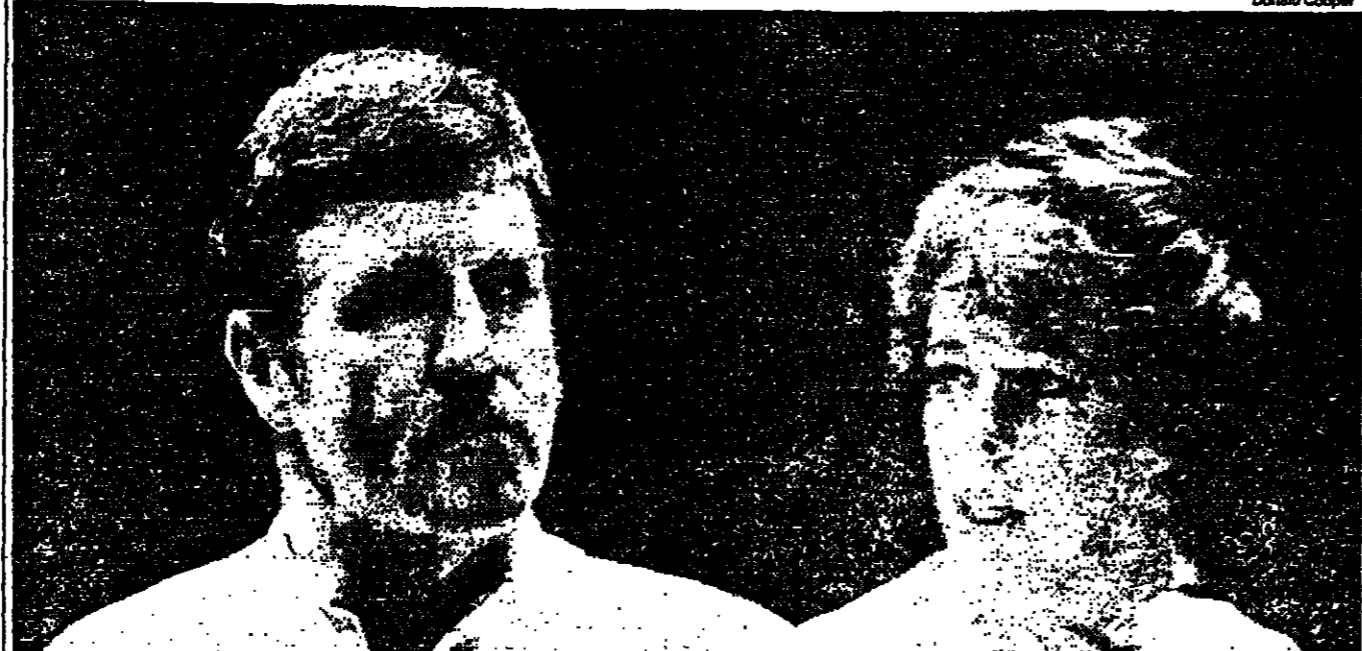
But I suspect that the rather exposed and delicate position of each illustrious guest combined with the phone-in format have ensured that nothing could ever be pressed hard or pursued. Sue MacGregor did her courteous and often quick-witted best to sharpen up or supplement listeners' questions, but, like Michael Charlton in the same seat a year ago, she could do little to save the series from its inherent limitations.

Though it is expected of Radio 3 that it should put them on, those productions of European classic drama have often been more worthy than enjoyable - and especially if the plays are other people's comedies. So I came to Beaumarchais's *The Barber of Seville* (May 29, director Ian Couterell) with that sort of expectation, reinforced by the knowledge that this was to be the first of the author's three Figaro plays: *The Marriage of Figaro* and the lesser-known *A Mother's Guilt* will follow.

But I was captivated: a rippling translation by John Wells, lively music from Carl Davis, a super cast - Dorothy Tutin leading - and an athletic production now make the next two Wednesday evenings seem thoroughly attractive.

David Wade

Theatre



Alan Bates and Frances de la Tour as Strindberg's marital duellists

Habitual hostilities of marriage

Dance of Death Riverside

It is often the habit of the postwar theatre to claim Strindberg as its master, and then get busy correcting him.

Ted Whitehead's version that arrives at Riverside with Frances de la Tour and Alan Bates as the marital duellists gives them an equal choice of weapons and, more surprisingly, terms of alliance and even fondness.

All this is in key with Keith Hack's production, which telescopes the play's two parts into an evening of some three and a half hours (from which I had to beat an early retreat), and which

resolutely sets out to relate Strindberg's monsters to commonplace experience of marital torture.

The performance is generally low-keyed, and wary of anything approaching the grotesque and there are moments when expected climaxes fall decidedly flat. The captain's dance dwindles from a frenzied display of aggression to a self-conscious little shuffle that could hardly have put him out of breath, much less brought on a heart attack.

But there are justifications for the style which relates the lurid first play to its cooler sequel (in which the wounds of the parents are passed on to their children).

The tone of the production is

beautifully established in the opening scene of desperate habit-ridden boredom, with Miss de la Tour picking invisible spots of dust off the furniture and the Captain yawning his way through a game of cards, both of them vigilantly awaiting the first alert of impending hostilities.

The arrival of Kurt (Michael Byrne) gives them the pretext for virtuosic displays of social double talk.

Adopting a hoarse, croaking *sotto voce* only occasionally erupting into deranged fury, Mr Bates conveys all the vampire-like strategies of which his wife accuses him, without losing hold of a realistic comic identity.

Miss de la Tour takes the

more perilous course of playing the suffering victim rather than the assailant, with corresponding impact when she finally hatches her plot to destroy him.

The ending of the first part shows both partners struggling through to an extraordinary point of elation where they make a temporary peace in the shadow of death. This also sets the scene for their children, Anne Louise Lambert and Robert Morgan, re-fighting the same battles in the second play, Mr Whitehead has an inspired line that sums the work up. Is life comic or serious, somebody asks. The captain answers: "It's a scream."

Irving Wardle

Concert

Strangely moulded symphony

NYPO/Mehta Festival Hall/Radio 3

I am not quite sure why there should have been a decision to begin this concert with two ways of not hearing the New York Philharmonic.

First there was the Third Brandenburg, whose presence on the programme had made me hope for a big romantic re-orchestration. But no, the platform lay empty around the string quartet and harpsichord continuo of the score, with just a solo bassist to strengthen the bottom line.

Admittedly there was the pleasure, rare these days, of hearing Bach played with a decent vibrato on good modern metal strings, but it seemed a high price to have to bring a whole symphony orchestra across the Atlantic for this.

After this the full orchestra duly appeared, but remained

hidden from view by George Crumb's *A Haunted Landscape*. Written last year, this was the second work by Crumb commissioned by the New York Philharmonic. Sounds fall to become music for the simple reason that nothing is expected of them.

They arouse no guesses about the future and offer no remarks on the past, because one knows perfectly well that their sole function is to evoke an immediate state of feeling: eeriness, awe, even anxiety at the piccolo summons out of Varese's *Intégrales*. All these things and others are heard and heard again over a low B flat, sounding the frequency of American mains hum.

But at last there was a chance to hear the orchestra in Mahler's Fifth Symphony or rather to hear Zubin Mehta. His intervention was everywhere. One had the impression of a man crouched over the orches-

tra, his hands playing on the various sections with tight control and astonishing dexterity as he moulded the music bar by bar, almost beat by beat.

There was little question of coherence in his choice of tempos or textural balances: he was much too concerned with giving a keen muscular outline to each moment.

Sometimes this produced a strange effect, as melodies suddenly disappeared when his attention went elsewhere, or accompaniment figures shot into prominence. If one closed one's eyes the logic of the performance was hard to perceive: it only made sense in relation to Mr Mehta's visually evident willfulness.

Nevertheless, we heard an imaginative clarinet, a golden trumpet and a very fruity, vibrato-rich first horn. But the main amazement was at Mr Mehta's mastery of his men.

Paul Griffiths

Television

Life of a contrary nature

"Generally, it was all right", said Otto Klemperer summing up his life for John Freeman in *Face to Face* in 1964. At the end of Ottaviano's acknowledgement of Klemperer's centenary on BBC1 last night, it seemed a surprisingly benign appraisal of his life.

Perhaps it was just how he felt that evening, for he was a contrary man, "made of contradictions", as his daughter Lotte remarked, but suggesting a certain charm: "He could persuade you of anything if he set his mind to it".

Pierre Boulez found him "sometimes very aggressive in his opinions"; but added that he rather liked that. Klemperer himself told Mr Freeman: "I am very much up and down, and between these two it is very difficult".

Yet through these peaks and troughs ran an extraordinary, unflinching musical integrity, according to his biographer, Peter Heyworth.

He found possibly his most tranquil period in London as principal conductor of the

Philharmonia in the 1950s and '60s. He had his critics but audiences gradually flocked to him. "There was", said Daniel Barenboim, "always something special".

Keith Cheetham's programme, relying heavily on Mr Freeman's earlier, deft spade-work, established the special qualities without casting light on the reasons for his inner conflict, but it was a welcome reminder of a formidable man.

Dennis Hackett

LONDON FESTIVAL BALLET advertisement featuring Peter Schaufuss as Artistic Director. It lists various ballets including Coppella, Romeo and Juliet, and La Sylphide, along with cast members and performance dates.

Military Musical Pageant advertisement for Saturday 22 June at 7.30pm. It features a cast of 2000 musicians and includes contact information for booking.

Advertisement for Swan Hellenic Cruise, featuring a white star logo. It promotes a 1985 cruise to Rhodes, Mycenae, Jerusalem, and Cairo, with a price of £277 including shore excursions.

Large advertisement for Platinum Key, featuring a person in a futuristic helmet. The text reads: 'THE ULTIMATE HIGHER INTEREST ACCOUNT...'

Continuation of the Platinum Key advertisement, providing interest rates (10.75% NET, 15.36% GROSS) and contact information for Yorkshire Building Society.

Vertical text on the far left edge of the page, including fragments of other articles and advertisements.

PROMS advertisement for Covent Garden, featuring a large 'PROMS' logo and details about the £3 Matinee performance on June 7th.

Vertical text on the left side of the bottom section, including fragments of other articles.

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Derby fever

Walter Swinburn, the jockey banned for 21 days for reckless riding, has now been banned from Michael Stoute's stable in the run-up to Wednesday's Derby. Swinburn celebrated his return to the track by going down with flu and Stoute, his governor, is terrified that his Derby hope, Shaded, will also succumb.

Indeed, it is much-debated whether Stoute or Shaded will be sweating the most before the Derby. Stoute was fined £500 for his successful attempt to avoid overstimulating the excitable horse by instructing Lester Piggot (deputizing for the suspended Swinburn) to play truant from the pre-race parade at the 2000 Guineas and to ride straight down to the start. But Stoute has been told that he could lose his licence if he does the same again. He therefore attempted a preemptive strike against the colt's pre-race nerves by taking him for a pre-race ride at Newbury to accustom him to overnight stabling away from home - Shaded had never before been away from Newmarket - and going through racing formalities on a foreign field. Shaded behaved with the utmost stillness in the parade ring but when he got on to the grass he calmed down and again looked a good bet.

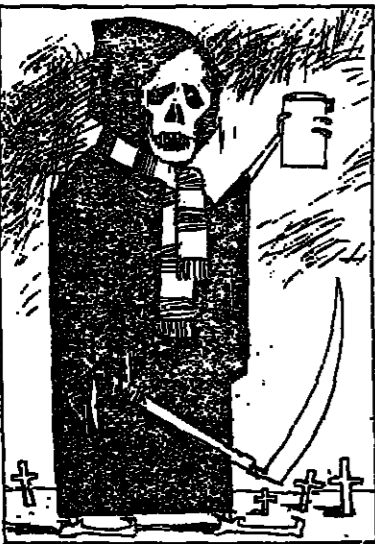
Stoute meanwhile is showing unexpected potential as a sire of sprinters. His daughter, Caroline, recently won her school's 100 yards. A propitious omen, perhaps.

Jim Watt, Scottish former world lightweight champion, was asked this week what he would like on his tombstone. He replied: "You can stop counting. I'm not getting up."

Champing up to go

A new Soviet law "intensifying the struggle against drunkenness" comes into force today, and a reader of *Soviet Sport*, A. Korshunov, has come up with a marvellous suggestion. He says that national holidays, birthdays and weddings should not be occasions when "morning after hangovers are pre-programmed". Instead, relatives and guests should celebrate by going for a long-distance run. In winter, he adds helpfully, they could go cross-country skiing.

BARRY FANTONI



Wish granted

A West German village soccer team celebrated its centenary last week by taking on the leading Italian side, Inter Milan. The team, Spielvereinigung Oederquart, of Lower Saxony, went down, predictably, 15-1. The game is believed to have cost the organizer, Hans-Juergen Kuehlke, around £25,000. "Our aim was to lose gracefully," he said, and professed himself well satisfied.

Hydrofoils

A fencing tournament at grand master level was held in mid-Atlantic this week. Involving Britain, the US and West Germany, it took place between Southampton and New York aboard the QE2.

Ray Illingworth, now 52, remains in work as a cricket professional. The former England captain is back with the Bradford League club Farsley, which he played for as a teenager.

Westward go

Rugby League has been on a thrilling safari into the heart of the traditional Rugby Union territory of Cornwall. In what was claimed to be the third Rugby League match between professionals to be held in the county, Mansfield Marksmen beat Carlisle 46-28 before a crowd of 200 Cornishmen.

All-purpose

The secretary of the Anglo-Corfu cricket association, Ben Brookes, sent a set of nets to help with the coaching on that extraordinary Greek outpost of the Great Game. When he next went to Corfu he looked for the nets but located them only in the fulness of time. They had been borrowed by a local fisherman. Corfu cricket abounds in improbable stories, and since 1985 marks the 150th anniversary of the first cricket match between Greek sides on Corfu, the Anglo-Corfu cricket association has just published a celebratory book. One story is about a chap called Rupert Daniels whose peppering of the Eplandse with sixes prompted a spectator to offer him his daughter's hand in marriage. Another concerns a policeman who played cricket 'watched by his bride of a few hours'. His innings lasted six balls, and went 6, 6, miss, 6, 6. The out-of-drinking crowd adored him.

Must this child go on suffering?

by Alf Morris

The case of two-year-old Louise Lavin is the one they said could never happen. She has an ear condition which, if not properly treated, could lead to severe long-term damage to her hearing. Yet the drug her doctor has prescribed for her is no longer available under the NHS and costs more than her family can afford.

When, to save £75 million, DHSS ministers limited the list of drugs a doctor may prescribe under the NHS, they insisted that patient care would not be harmed. We were told in debate after debate that no one could be hurt because the list included adequate substitutes for any and every drug that had been excluded.

Louise's case shows either that they did not know the facts or were deliberately throwing dust in our eyes.

Louise's parents are my constituents and have two other children. Her father works but is low paid and the family is allowed free prescriptions. In Louise's case this is

meaningless because the drug she needs - one of the group known as Mucolytics - is not on the new, limited list and, in her doctor's view, there is no suitable alternative on the list.

He is backed in that view by the parents of many other hearing-impaired children who have told the National Deaf Children's Society that the permitted equivalent of the drug is nowhere near as effective. Some believe, charitably, that DHSS ministers made a mistake in excluding the drug Louise Lavin needs and that, now the error is exposed, they will add it to the list.

Norman Fowler or one of his ministers might reply that an appeals procedure will cover disputed cases, but that will be cold comfort for Louise and her family, since her need is immediate.

The outcome of Louise's case is important to the health of thousands of other children who suffer from "glue ear" or fluid-filled cavities. If it is not humanely resolved,

the Government could land itself in a row not only with doctors but also with more and more parents all over Britain.

Doctors say it should be for GPs, not a health minister, to say what medication patients need. In some cases they are angrier than the parents.

We must hope that the Government will think again and that, if DHSS ministers cannot see sense, they will be made to do so by others who know the value of things as well as their cost. As an official of the National Deaf Children's Society writes: "The banning of this drug may in fact become the cause of greater cost to the NHS."

So the ban is self-defeating as well as morally wrong. If the Government is not to suffer little children to go on suffering, it should urgently be lifted.

The author, Labour MP for Manchester, Withenshawe, was Minister for the Disabled, 1974-79.

Bailey Morris on a US financial crisis that is far from over

When going big means going broke

Washington
The long lines of frightened depositors are gone. There is no more nightly television coverage of scenes hauntingly familiar to an older generation which had almost forgotten the financial despair of the 1930s. But unsettling questions remain following the run on deposits which drained in a matter of days \$700 million from Maryland's privately insured savings and loan associations (the equivalent of British building societies).

Two shocks to the US system in two months exposed a weakness in the closely linked international financial structure which has unnerved American and European investors alike. The earlier March crisis which resulted in the closure of 70 Ohio savings and loan associations was the first strong warning. It resulted in the declaration of a bank holiday which caused the dollar to plummet as nervous European investors, concerned over the soundness of the US system, pulled out their money.

Then, in May, there was a similar crisis in Maryland. The overall reaction was a public loss of confidence in 4,000 institutions which are part of the US heritage. The savings and loan industry was founded largely by European immigrants for the benefit of other immigrants. Unable to speak English and without a prior credit history, these families arrived in America with little money and few prospects of obtaining loans from established banks. Bohemian Building Loan and Saving Association in Baltimore, Maryland, is an example of how they resolved this dilemma.

It was founded in 1900 by Joseph Klecka who collected \$79 from eight fellow Czechoslovak immigrants to help newcomers to buy their first homes. Slovan (Bohemian for "free man") Building and Loan opened 25 years later. It operates today very much as it did then: open for business only two hours a week, every Tuesday evening, to make home loans almost exclusively to people in the neighbourhood or to their relatives. In 60 years it has foreclosed on only five mortgages.

"When customers have trouble making payments, we try to work it out," explained Anthony Brozik, Slovan's attorney. It was this sort of relationship which engendered a fierce loyalty among customers. "I have faith in these people. We have known them for 40 years," said Anthony Matecic, a retired Maryland shipyard worker who keeps an account at Light Street Savings and Building Association, as did his mother-in-law.

Warsaw

Stalin is dead, but there again, perhaps he isn't. The Soviet bloc has been busily resurrecting the old Georgian tyrant, dressing him up in the generalissimo's uniform and hailing the chief. There he is (soft-spoken, wise as Diogenes) in the Soviet-East German film *Victory*, in the Polish play *Yalta* (wise, outwitting perfidious Albion) and the Polish film *Catastrophe in Gibraltar* (wise, pockmarked but absolutely correct). In Eastern Europe they are said to have cried when he died; then they spat on his memory and now, stage and screen, celebrate a great war leader.

Thank goodness, one thinks at such a time, for underground culture. A remarkable documentary volume, printed on Poland's clandestine presses, presents an alternative vision of the Soviet leader: Stalin as political circus master, Stalin as clown. The book, entitled *They*, is a series of interviews with the aging politicians who established communism in Poland after the war. Some of them were feared, others despised. In the end they became politically invisible.

The author, Teresa Toranska, tracked them down - Edward Ochab, briefly party chief, Roman Werl, a party ideologist, Stefan Staszewski, Warsaw party boss, Wiktor Kosiowski, a central committee member, Leon Chajni, a deputy justice minister, the widow of Hilary Mine, once the third most important man in the Polish leadership, and the dreaded Jakub Berman. They all revealed some home truths about the establishment of communist rule, and above all about their complete subjugation to the will of Stalin.

Berman, who among other things controlled the secret police in its postwar heyday, recalls bizarre evenings in the Kremlin during the war. "Stalin played records of Georgian music. He loved it. I remember that on one occasion I danced with Molotov - not his wife,



Until the mid-1970s, the savings and loan industry operated in a cosy environment protected by government regulations which kept their costs down by barring them from paying more than 5 per cent interest on deposits in return for a guarantee that the deposits would be channelled into home mortgages. But two developments, the rise of rampant inflation and the clamour for deregulation, changed the industry almost overnight.

Suddenly, savings and loan associations were thrust into the competitive mainstream. Costs rocketed as they sought to keep their deposits by paying ever higher rates of interest. At the same time, revenue lagged because the bulk of their assets were tied up in millions of low-rate, long-term mortgages. By 1981, the majority were technically insolvent in the sense that assets were worth less than liabilities.

Congress made a half-hearted response. It waived the existing restrictions and allowed the associations to increase revenues by making direct investments in real estate and by offering new types of loans. At the same time, minimum capital requirements were lowered. Congress hoped that eventually, with declining interest rates and time to work off old mortgages, the savings industry would be turned round.

But interest rates did not decline far enough or fast enough. In addition, the skills of carefully protected managers did not transfer well to the new, deregulated world of competitive finance. Savings and loan companies began investing in high-risk, high-yield "junk bonds" used by corporate raiders to finance hostile takeovers. Some paid interest as much as two points above prevailing rates to attract new investors from Europe and other US states. They made bad energy-related loans. They invested in big property development projects far from their home bases.

In the case of Old Court Savings and Loan, the Maryland institution which triggered the mid-May crisis, state prosecutors alleged that the management made more than \$6 million in unsecured loans to officers and directors and allowed interest-bearing checking accounts (called now accounts) to be overdrawn by an additional \$5.7 million.

The results were predictable. Institutions either closed or were taken over by federal insurers and merged into other, healthy institutions. Over the past five years, an estimated 1,000 federally-backed institutions have been merged and another 1,000 are losing money. The system of less comprehensive, private deposit insurance in Ohio,

Maryland and four other states is being phased out because it does not provide adequate protection.

Meanwhile, Congress contemplates what additional steps it must take to shore up the federal insurance system which could be stretched dangerously thin in the months ahead, resulting in billions of dollars of new federal liabilities. "We have the potential for a very serious thrift (savings and loan) crisis in this country," Willard Butcher, president of Chase Manhattan Bank, told a recent meeting of business executives.

The failure of even two very large associations out of the 4,000 backed by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation could strain its resources at a time when more savings and loan institutions are seeking federal backing. The FSLIC has reserves estimated at \$7 billion, of which \$4 billion is available to bail out troubled institutions. This compares to estimated total deposits in the institutions of \$1,000 billion.

The potential magnitude of the problem is causing a growing number of influential Americans to demand a return to the good old days when small neighbourhood associations flourished under a system of strict government regulations.

Graffiti of truth on the great Stalin whitewash

she was in the gulag at the time. I think it was a waltz or something very simple, as I haven't got the slightest idea about dancing, so I just shuffled my feet in time with the rhythm. Molotov led the dance. I played the role of the woman. He was quite a good dancer, Molotov."

The dances had more serious purposes. "Stalin never danced; he just stood by the record player, wound it up, performing a civic duty. Stalin enjoyed himself immensely on these occasions, but for the rest of us these dances were a good opportunity to whisper things that otherwise could not have been spoken aloud. For example, during my waltz with Molotov he warned me about the infiltration of the Polish communists by various hostile organizations. Naturally he called this 'friendly advice' rather than 'warnings'."

After Stalin's men were installed in Warsaw, he still called the tune. Berman said: "Stalin organized a whole system of work that involved us in Poland and we worked until late in the night. He started work at about six in the evening and therefore anyone who might be of some use to him stayed in the office and waited in case he called."

Berman was counted as the second most important man in the Polish leadership after President Boleslaw Bierut, but he was under surveillance. "We had a cleaning lady. Of course she was sent to us by the security ministry. The same ministry organized our holidays, business trips and allocated bodyguards - I had four or five of them

working in shifts during the day and night. They all gathered information about me and my family, about my office hours and visitors, and passed it on somewhere."

In his lengthy interview Berman claims to have scented a change of wind as Stalin grew weaker. And when Stalin died Berman abandoned in the pollitur vote to rename the Silesian town of Katowice "Stalinograd." He also managed to talk the others out of building a statue of Stalin outside the awesomely ugly Palace of Culture. Itself a present from the Soviet leader. This proved sensible - within a couple of years Stalin was being debunked and the statue would most surely have been torn down - but hardly enough to save Berman's political career.

Poland was the first to begin the great debunk. Nikita Krushchev's "secret speech" describing Stalin's excesses was openly circulating in Warsaw and was even on sale in the low-life market bazaar Rozyczyko (a kind of Petticoat Lane) before most Soviet communists knew of the attack. Edward Ochab remarked: "All our party cells openly discussed the speech. Thanks to this, communists from other socialist countries had a chance to read the speech and some copies were certainly smuggled into the Soviet Union."

Although Staszewski has become a Roman Catholic most of Stalin's men have clung to their socialism, or at least to a vague belief in power. Berman, who died last year shortly after giving the interview, had this exchange with the author about how the 1947 referendum was rigged.



Stalin: everyone dancing to his tune

When asked why he did not reveal the truth at the time, Berman replied: "You cannot reveal the truth if you wish to stay in power. If we had an alternative - to win and stay or to lose and give up power - then we could have told the truth. But we had no choice. Even now we must not hold free elections. Now more than then, because we will lose. I have no doubt about that. Unless we want to become extremely gentlemanlike, lift our hats, bow and say: here you are, we want to retire, take power yourselves."

"Exactly," responded the author. "What, exactly? Why are you saying 'exactly'?" Berman shouted. "Because," the author replied, "that is what you should do."

Roger Boyes

Woodrow Wyatt

A Sunday selling plate too

The Epsom Derby, the world's most famous and possibly most important horse race, will be run next Wednesday. How quaint the British are to shunt such a race on to a weekday. Other countries with this asset would stage it on a Sunday when far more could go and the roads in and around Epsom were not impeded by everyday and commercial traffic.

This year, for the first time, parts of the Downs previously open free to the public will be enclosed and admission charged. This may raise the 1984 total of 21,579 who paid to watch the race (plus 12,000 in coaches at £6 a head) by some 15,000. If the race were on a Sunday the figures could be multiplied several times.

Thirty-three years ago Labour MP John Parker asked me to second his Private Member's Bill in the Commons to abolish medieval restrictions on Sunday activities. It was defeated out of sight. Since then the strength of those who think like the Pharisees, that man was made for the Sabbath and not the Sabbath for man has diminished.

Despite lingering protests Sunday trading is about to become legal. It follows that there can be no logical or moral case against Sunday racing, complete with betting. The racing industry, always strapped for money, has sensed that a climate of opinion which has changed far enough to let shops open on Sundays may encompass the idea that Sunday racing would not destroy religion.

The Jockey Club has set up a working party under the chairmanship of General Sir Cecil Blaker, deputy senior steward of the Jockey Club, to examine the implications of Sunday racing. I must declare my interest: as chairman of the Tote I am an enthusiastic member, though nothing I write should be taken as committing the working party.

Families bored with visiting the Tower of London, Woburn, Chatsworth, garden centres or safari parks would leap at an alternative Sunday outing. On the Continent racing on Sundays brings crowds much larger than those on a Saturday, the second-best day. On the reasonable assumption that there was no loss of attendances on other days Sunday racing could add, at least another 1,100,000 to yearly attendances, an increase of 30 per cent. This would be a welcome boost to the finances of our 60 racecourses, many of which are barely viable.

Even if there were no racing on, say, a Tuesday, the rise in yearly attendances could be over 800,000, an increase of 23 per cent. But as most racecourses operate on very few days, and horses have to be looked after every day there would be no unsolvable labour problem in racing seven days a week, and that would be the desideratum. However, racing on a Sunday would be

pointless unless Sunday betting were also made legal, on the course and in the betting shops.

That would be of wonderful help to the racing industry, and to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. At the Tote we estimate that Sunday as an additional betting day would produce at least as much as a Saturday and increase the annual national betting turnover by £550 million, or 26.7 per cent. Betting is not finite: seven races on a card always create more turnover than six. In France the Pari-Mutuel turnover is over half as much again on Sundays as on Saturdays and six times as much as on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the four worst days.

The increase in annual betting duty in Britain could be £68 million. The increase in levy payable by bookmakers and the Tote to the Levy Board could be £5.5 million, adding a quarter to its present income. As a member of the Levy Board I know how valuable that would be in improving prize money and giving extra help to racecourses to make their ambience more congenial for spectators.

Some racecourses such as Ascot, Cheltenham, Sandown, Goodwood, York, Lingfield and Chester give the audience agreeable facilities. Watching the horses go by is only part of the attraction. On Tuesday night at Sandown the last race was at 8.45 pm but last orders in the restaurants were 10 pm for the crowd who had enjoyed wandering round the pretty course in the evening sunshine. Most courses have not got the resources to provide the atmosphere of family entertainment expected by the modern affluent public. Sunday racing would unlock the door to the cash required.

Some jockeys with lucrative European rides on Sundays would object but there would be enough left for the two to four British meetings on a Sunday. Few courses would operate on Sundays more than three or four times a year.

Of course the bookmakers should be happy. It would be easy to arrange shift systems in the betting shops as other sections of the entertainment industry do. Grand National Day, a Saturday, produces a national betting turnover of some £27 million. It is usually a bookmaking disaster because the fancied horses are high priced, backed each way with three or four offers in the frame. Derby Day produces £17 million in betting turnover. That would at least double on a Sunday and the results are generally much more pleasing to the bookmakers, though less so to the punters.

Even without the Derby bookmakers' profits would rise, with Sunday racing, as would the health of the racing industry; and with another leisure outlet Sunday in Britain would be jollier.

Paul Pickering

No more yorkers: each run is fun

Whatever else may or may not divide north and south, there are definitely two nations when it comes to village cricket. Played in the shadow of dark satanic northern mills such as Orgreave power station it is a blood sport in which the village's fast bowler is built like Thor and has spent all week forging things in the bowels of British Steel. His convictions for grievous bodily harm and malicious wounding mean that those batsmen lacking the stonewalling style of Geoff Boycott will feel as they have had a day out with the Japanese riot police.

The batsmen crouch over their crease looking like particularly venomous caricatures of Richard III. My grandfather used to take his teeth out and make horrible faces, his chin touching his nose, just to annoy the bowler. He had a trial for Yorkshire and was known to weep only once in his life, when bowled out a run short of a century.

When I came home one summer from college with a broken heart, the love of my life having decided she preferred other women, my uncle thought a good game of village cricket would take my mind off things. The captain of our side had the fanatical gleam in his eye of a Shi'ite militiaman and kept muttering that there wasn't one person he liked in the opposing hamlet of Thorpe Hesley. "Kill 'em," he advised.

Unfortunately they nearly killed me. I was at short fine leg and, still pining for my lost love, did not have my mind sufficiently on the game. A feckish ball hit me in the chest and knocked me out. Had I been at leg slip I might have been the first person to die from a combination of cricket and lesbianism. But the reasons for my shame were not easy to explain in south Yorkshire. I had dropped a catch which could have saved the match. Through a cloud of silent loathing in the pavilion they delivered the ultimate insult: "Well, I suppose he's not really a Yorkshireman any more."

When I came to London I entertained the hope that the game was played in pleasant surroundings by less wicked people. A couple of fixtures for a mental hospital (staff second 11) and a record company whose wicket keeper was mugged for his gloves on the way to the ground did not make for the quintessential English pastime I had dreamed of.

Perhaps as with earlier disappointments, such as cricket, the Church of England, reality was always dull in comparison with expectation. Perhaps, I thought, cricket was never played by friendly souls on pretty village greens. I had nearly given up the quest when suddenly I was asked to become a Lobster.

The Lobsters play at a real village

in the New Forest, the kind of picture of pastoral bliss down to the last delphinium which English missionaries used to show puzzled natives in Victorian times to indicate heaven. "If you think our pitch is nice you should see the cowpals in the outfield at St George's" said one Lobster. Here at last was a sane attitude to the sport. The batsmen have all their own teeth and the bowlers no previous convictions.

Captain Will, the leader of the side, lives in a house with a large red lobster on the roof called Lobster Cottage. There he looks after spinnings race horses, March orchids, various types of newt and large goldfish in two lake-like ponds. "We don't take ourselves terribly seriously," he said. "Of course being a Yorkshireman I suppose you are quite keen."

Suddenly the horrible thought occurred that beneath Captain Will's understatement there might lurk a desire to win just as obsessive as that of my Yorkshire cousins. Such talk as "this is a really important match" and "where do we go from here if we win this one?" seemed to confirm my fears. As midday approached I considered the idea of claiming that one of the horses had stood on my foot and I should sit this one out.

The team did not seem to include many rural sons of toil. There were barristers, TV producers and a pop group leader, all the sort of people with a ruthless will to achieve. "No Gummer jokes please," said a Lobster as another brought along a surprisingly attractive relation of the Tory party chairman.

As it happened, the rain buckered down to prevent any play. We repaired to a Bejemanesque pub on a village green by a trout stream and then went for a swim in Captain Will's goldfish pond. It was a most enjoyable day of not playing cricket. In Yorkshire when rain stops play the atmosphere is funereal and everyone stomps home to be peevish to their pigeons or grumble at Grandstand.

After the downpour we went to the nets and any fears I had about Lobster professionalism vanished. Here was the true amateur game where dropped catches, wides and awful shots were scrupulously applauded far more enthusiastically than the occasional bit of decent cricket. A TV aim temptress actually donned pads.

Now I am looking forward to getting on to the field and praying for fine weather. No doubt some grandfather will glower down *densly* and watch the Lobsters' antics with horror. I can only say I'm glad there are parts of the country where village cricket is nothing more than an enjoyable game.



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STRASBOURG LAW

Today's ruling by the European Court of Human Rights about husbands and wives puts in sharp relief the characteristics of the "bill of rights" approach to law making. It also points a contrast with the British amalgam of statute law and a bit of judge-made law closely related to precedent.

The three wives who won their case are non-British residents in England with a right of abode. They were contesting an earlier refusal, based on the immigration rules, to allow their foreign husbands to join them and settle here (a refusal they would not have encountered had they been husbands seeking to be joined by their wives).

It was argued that the refusal was a multiple breach of the European Convention on Human Rights to which the United Kingdom is a party: article 8, which says "everyone has the right to respect for his... family life..."; article 14, which prescribes that the rights set forth in the convention shall be secured without discrimination on any ground - among the grounds cited are those of sex, race and birth, all of which were pleaded; article 3, which says no one shall be subjected to degrading treatment; article 13, which requires "an effective remedy before a national tribunal" in case of violation of any of the rights and freedoms set forth; and article 50, which has to do with compensation.

Only two pellets of this buckshot hit the target, discrimination on ground of sex and the absence of an effective domestic remedy. It is the first of those which counts.

The court reached its conclusion by the following steps. It laid down the premise that advancement of the equality of the sexes is a major goal in the member states of the Council of Europe; a difference of treatment according to sex impeding that objective could be thought compatible with the convention only if very weighty reasons were advanced for its necessity; two reasons had been advanced: protection of the domestic labour market at a time of high unemployment, and promotion of public tranquillity; neither had sufficient strength to withstand the force of article 14; therefore the British government was in breach of the convention.

The kernel of the judgement was the court's assessment of the

government's two justifying considerations. Both are of an essentially political nature: the protection to be afforded the domestic labour market by control of immigration in specific ways, and the contribution control of immigration makes to the achievement of reasonably harmonious race relations in the country at large.

The court was in effect saying that these considerations of policy in the form in which they arose must give way to another policy objective, advancement of equality of the sexes, which is served by the text of the convention. Only if they were exceptionally pressing might these policy considerations prevail, and in the view of the court they did not meet that condition.

Under the British system of law the judges have no such licence to order and reorder the elements of public policy. The Government, sustained by and answerable to Parliament and dependent on it for legislative consent, is responsible for the conduct of policy. It is for those organs of state to decide, for instance, by what shape and detail the immigration rules will serve best to prevent, compatibly with other objects, the arousal of resentment against coloured residents that would be harmful to the interests of every section of the community.

The courts here do not purport to challenge political judgement in that way. They have become more active recently in the surveillance of administrative acts, and the development is welcome. But their intervention is largely confined to instances of procedural irregularity and, more daringly, to weighing the contention that "no reasonable person could so decide". Above all they will not substitute their own view for the minister's or other public authority's view of what the best executive decision or course of action might have been.

Nor do our judges have by them a tapestry of superior law against which to set ordinary statute law and fault it in any respect in which it clashes. There are, it is true, the "rules of natural justice" but they are of more restricted application than the phrase suggests and are essentially procedural, as the unions at GCHQ found out.

Yet it is just that which the European Court of Human

Rights sits to do. It is invited by aggrieved persons to test the validity of the laws, regulations and official acts of member states against superior law enshrined in the convention on human rights. This superior law is expressed in a form which strikes anyone respectful of the British tradition of law-making as defectively broad, declamatory and imprecise.

That characteristic of Strasbourg justice induces the guardian-interpreters of the convention to pass general judgement on public policy to an extent that is foreign to our own judicial system. It draws judges into the false position of deciding questions that properly lie with ministers and legislators. It blurs the constitutional separation of powers. It transmutes rhetoric into law by way of the aggrandizement of judges.

To return to wives and husbands: fourteen judges sat in an arc of nationality from Iceland to Turkey, estimable lawyers all, but variably acquainted with the political temper of British society in regard to coloured immigration or the constraints on policy imposed by the requirements of social harmony. Yet under the "bill of rights" procedure they found themselves weighing these things in the balance, which are matters neither of law nor of fact but of policy.

After twelve adverse judgements from Strasbourg, on diverse subjects from the Scottish law to the closed shop on the railways, we have some experience of the impact on our laws of the activity of this extra-territorial court. The experience has been fairly bruising for British governments, though that is not to say it has been unfortunate for the British people. Many would argue strenuously that the opposite is the case, and that friction could be removed and advantages secured by incorporating the convention into our domestic law.

The Strasbourg jurisdiction does however import a process of law-making, or more strictly unmaking, that is at odds with some of the settled conventions of our constitution. The implications of that need to be more fully examined and generally understood before any move is made to naturalize the convention as an opening chapter in a yet-to-be-written constitution of the United Kingdom.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Responses to the Brussels agony

From the Chief Rabbi
Sir, The appalling tragedy in Brussels, which has horrified us all, may merit at least one consoling after-thought.

The quite remarkable acceptance of collective shame for the deeds of some miscreants represents a demonstration of moral solidarity that is as rare as it is significant among the most civilized nations. Inspired by the resolute example of the Prime Minister, no one in this country made any attempt to vindicate the honour of the nation by the specious argument that only a tiny element of evil men were responsible, and that no blame attaches to the British people as a whole. In fact, religious and political leaders, journalists and ordinary citizens were all united in feeling collectively guilty and disgraced.

How heartening this exceptional response is, testifying to the basic moral strength which distinguishes the British character and the overwhelming majority of the country's citizens. I cannot but contrast this to the callous indifference with which not so long ago many citizens of another European country sought to shed any sense of shared guilt and shame by scribbling the names of those convicted for years by an infinitely larger proportion of fellow-citizens and on an infinitely vaster scale.

In Judaism, the acceptance of corporate responsibility has always been regarded as a supreme ideal. Just as acts of virtue by a single Jew are deemed to be a "sanctification of the Divine Name" in which all can take credit, so any misdeeds of a Jew are deemed to be a "desecration of the Divine Name" bringing shame upon all, calling for collective remorse and expiation.

When any part of the human body is afflicted, the entire person is sick. Equally, if any section of society is deprived, all must feel a sense of guilt for allowing it to happen. Evil interjects with the sentences. Neither did the trial judge have any discretion whatever as to sentence (apart from the power, if he had thought it appropriate, to recommend a minimum period to be served) once the jury returned verdicts of guilty of murder.

If a misdirection upon the law was given to the jury, in consequence of which the verdicts are rendered unsafe and unsatisfactory, the convicted men's lawyers will be sought to advise and the Court of Appeal vigilant to put it right.

Until such matters are ventilated in the proper place, however, hasty, ill-informed and inaccurate opinion, born of intemperate emotional reaction, or an experienced "nose" for a political wind, will do nothing to assist those convicted, or their relatives, to come to terms with their situation, and it will serve only to sharpen the pain felt by the loved ones that David Wilkie has left behind.

Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY G. PONTIUS,
3 Gray's Inn Square, W.C1,
May 29.

Applying the law to taxi killing

From Mr Timothy G. Pontius
Sir, The aftermath of the trial and conviction of the two young miners of the murder of the Welsh taxi driver has been littered with misunderstanding and mis-statement, and a service to the cause of truth, decency and common sense has been done by Bernard Levin in his timely and wholly credible article (May 28).

However, inaccuracy yet persists: in your front-page report today (May 29), we are told that lawyers representing the murderers "intend to appeal against the life sentences imposed upon them"; that Mr Michael Foot has alleged "misdirection by the learned trial judge, and has said "Murder means deliberate killing, and like multitudes of others in the valley towns, I do not believe anything of the sort happened"; Mr Neil Kinnoch also appears to labour under the misapprehension that an appeal will necessarily involve a review of the sentences.

The following points ought clearly to be made for the benefit of those who are unfamiliar with the legal position:

1. The jury (of ordinary people from "the valley towns"), having been directed on the law, as it applies generally to criminal cases and, specifically, to the charges, convicted the defendants of murder; that finding of guilt did not necessarily involve any decision by the jury that the defendants had deliberately killed David Wilkie, but merely that their intention, at the time of committing the act which caused Wilkie's death, was to kill him or to cause him really serious harm.

2. Although much publicity has been given to demands from politicians, trade union leaders and the public (in mass demonstrations and marches) for a reduction in the sentences, the sentence for murder is mandatory life imprisonment and, if any appeal against conviction for murder is dismissed, there is no power in the Court of Appeal to interfere with the sentences. Neither did the trial judge have any discretion whatever as to sentence (apart from the power, if he had thought it appropriate, to recommend a minimum period to be served) once the jury returned verdicts of guilty of murder.

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Yours faithfully,
TIMOTHY G. PONTIUS,
3 Gray's Inn Square, W.C1,
May 29.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 1 1940

The evacuation of Dunkirk began on May 25 and continued until June 23. 231,585 British and 112,546 French and Belgian troops were taken off the beaches by an armada of 861 vessels - destroyers, gunboats, trawlers, yachts, motorboats, tugs, and some 300 small craft. On June 4 Winston Churchill stated in Parliament "We must be very careful not to assign to this deliverance the attributes of a victory". He concluded "... We shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight on the fields and in the streets..." Our Military Correspondent was Captain Cyril Falls (1888-1971).

[DUNKIRK]

B.E.F. AND FRENCH ON "CORUNNA LINE"

From Our Military Correspondent

The flow of British and French troops to Britain and in some cases to French ports has already surpassed the most sanguine expectations, but it still continues. The numbers withdrawn have increased enormously in the last 24 hours, though the precise figures cannot yet be revealed. A line of defence covers the withdrawal, and has hitherto prevented the enemy from reaching camp of Dunkirk itself from being assailed by the enemy. This line is known to the British as the "Corunna Line", but French troops fighting by their sides and in friendly rivalry are taking part in its defence in spite of its name.

In this confined area the men of the three Services can see combined operations being carried out. The air force is seen in the air, sea-power and air-power have been keeping land-power throughout, but the soldier in the field does not always observe their action, and sometimes does not realize it. When bombs are being dropped he wants to see the hostile bomber brought down by a friendly fighter, and can seldom appreciate the fact that for action taken by aircraft many bombs might have been dropped in his neighbourhood in the same way, the aid of the Fleet, always at his service, is hidden from him except on extraordinary occasions such as the present.

FRENCH FEAT OF ARMS

The number of French troops brought off has been greatly swollen by the splendid feat of arms of the French forces under the command of General Prioux a considerable proportion of whom have been a part of the evacuation. The Germans claim to have captured their heroic commander, but if this is true he was in his proper place, with his rear guard. Other isolated forces are still struggling to force a way through, and a proportion of them may even yet succeed.

The method of embarkation of late has been for the troops to be marched down to the beach in comparatively small parties, which are taken off in boats to the larger craft awaiting them. All have shown splendid discipline, whether or not they were under air bombardment. The tremendous density of the Allied anti-aircraft barrage and the respect which our fighters have inspired among the enemy's aircraft has however freed them from this threat yesterday; for up to a late hour in the afternoon no hostile aircraft had ventured to fly over the embarking troops.

TRUMPH OF COOPERATION

In face of these facts the Germans claim that the British Army has fled in disorder to the sea is ludicrous. If it had done so it would have been destroyed. The evacuation was the support of the Navy and the R.A.F., who can only help those who help themselves. Actually the B.E.F. and its French comrades have been carrying out the most difficult of all the operations of war, a feat which was not made possible by an embankment of open beaches in the presence of the enemy and with no hope of concealment. Such an operation calls for extreme skill, coolness, courage, and discipline. In these circumstances, the British have undoubtedly been fairly heavily numerically, though they are happily so far very light in proportion to the number of men withdrawn.

Among the impressions brought home, three appear to be prominent: the stunning and shocking effect of the dive-bomber and its bombs - worse than an artillery barrage morally, but less damaging materially; the prevalence of a spirit, which seemed to be able to get such headquarters bombed within a few hours of its taking over any house, however inconspicuous; and the fact that the German soldier, without the support tanks, was not as good a man as was his father. The Poles said the same thing.

Strategy of tax cuts

From Mr D. C. Damant
Sir, When comparing the effects on unemployment of certain types of Government expenditure, Mr H. V. Hodson (May 23) follows a number of commentators in suggesting that the most ineffective type of expenditure would be to cut taxation.

The statement overlooks a more general point. If other means of stimulating employment are successful, friction will arise if taxation starts at such a low level that it is difficult to exempt those on social security into lower-paid work. If tax on lower incomes is noticeably reduced, other measures will become more effective in reducing unemployment. Thus, as a matter of strategy, cuts in taxation on low incomes should at least go hand in hand with other measures, and perhaps should precede those other measures.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID C. DAMANT,
Quilter Goodison & Co.,
31-45 Gresham Street, EC2.

Kites in peril

From Mr Alan Morris
Sir, The plundering of such a high proportion of the red kite nests this year is an undoubted tragedy. It now seems that the well intentioned efforts of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and similar bodies are largely ineffective. It is very hard to stop a determined and experienced thief.

The time has come for a serious effort to protect the small population of these birds and ensure their survival and multiplication.

A small start could be made by spraying all the eggs with an indelible dye, thus rendering them valueless and easily identified.

However the real answer would be to initiate a large-scale captive breeding programme, and release the progeny in suitable sites throughout Britain. This was done by the Americans with the peregrine, with the result that the bird is now reestablished in the US after virtual extinction by pesticides.

Most of the established bodies are against any such ideas in general, possibly because they conflict with their entrenched positions. However, for the sake of the kites let us hope they might listen. Then, one day, the sight of these beautiful raptors soaring over the countryside may be as common as it is in Germany.

Yours,
ALAN MORRIS,
Fyppington Park,
Nuttley,
Sussex,
May 24.

More or less correct

From Mrs M. S. Grey
Sir, Dr Llewellyn-Smith's letter (May 17) about the approximate conversion of dollars into Swiss francs brought to mind a telephone conversation recently, during the course of which I asked the caller for his number. "Just hold on a minute", he replied, "and I'll give it to you exactly."

Yours faithfully,
SALLY GREY,
39 Priory Road, W4.

ling

Sunday betting went on the course and...

of wonderful help industry, and to the se... At the... Sunday as... day would... as a Saturday... national... 1985 million... card allows... than six. In France... turnover is... on Sundays as... six times as much... Tuesdays. Wednesdays, the four... e. In annual betting... could be 668 million... levied payable... and the... Total to... would be £5.5 million... urter to its... member of the... how valuable... improving prize... to help to recou... and enhance... sectors.

gives such as... Goodwood, Good... and Chester give... able facilities. Wa... go by is only... On Tuesday night... fast race was at... ders in the restaur... of the crowd who... being round the... evening sustains... have not only... provide the atmos... of excitement... fluent public. S... in the door to... keys with luc... on Sundays work... would be four... two to four... Sunday. Few... the... four times a year... the... would be easy... systems in the... do. Gram... Saturday, produ... turnover of... It is usually... disaster because... are high price... way with three... Derby D... 17 million in bet... would at least... and the results... a much more... though less so... about the Derby... would... ing... and... id be... .

rkers: fun

Forest, the kind... pastoral bliss down... inium, which... used to show... Victorian times... seven. "If you think... ice you should see... in the outfield. He... said one Lobster. He... same attitude to the... have all their... the bowlers no... .

Will, the leader of... in a house with a... the roof called... there he looks after... s, March orchids, v... and large goldfish... ponds. "We don't... terribly seriously... being a Yorkshire... you are quite... ly the horrible... hat beneath their... ment there might... just as obsessive... rksure cousins. Su... is a really impo... "where do you go... win this one?"... my fears. As... I considered the... that one of the... my foot and I... .

ut. I did not seem to... all sons of toil. There... TV producers and... der, all the... thless will to achieve... jokes please... is another brought... party attract... appeared, the rain... prevent any play... to a Benjaminesque... green by a trout stream... for a swim in... iddish pond. It was... day of not playing... shire when rain stop... isphere is home to... stomps home to... to their pigeons or... .

stand. The downpour we... and any fears I had... professional... as the true amateur... dropped catches, wide... shots were scrupulou... ed far more enthusias... e occasional bit of... A TV-am temptress... .

I am looking forward... on to the field and... weather. No doubt... p there in the firmam... ther will glower down... d watch the Lobsters... r. I can only say I'm... e parts of the country... cricket is nothing more... able game.

THE TRAMLINES HAVE A NEW TRAM

The Soviet leadership looks very different under Mr Gorbachov, but it is a difference more apparent than real. After three absentee invalid leaders it is refreshing for Russians to have a General Secretary dynamic enough to hold meetings with a rapid succession of foreign politicians while still finding time to visit factories, shake hands with workers, and even drop in for tea with a young couple to chat about their problems. He clearly hopes to persuade a generally cynical population that despite the disappointing economic results in the first months of this year, living standards can be improved - if only they would work harder.

He is certainly determined to investigate for himself the failings of Soviet industry, but there is less solid evidence for his concern over the shortcomings of the welfare state, despite his reported visit to an ordinary hospital outside the special health department for top people.

Mr Gorbachov has not yet become the official head of state as Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, but the USSR has already a more visible leading family than at any time since the revolution. His photogenic wife Raisa is seen on Soviet television and in formal newspaper portrayals of Kremlin receptions, quite outclassing the wives of older Politburo members, formerly kept well behind the scenes. She is - a particularly valuable asset in presenting a new image in the western media, which have happily reproduced stories of Gorbachov's bohemian

(some of them are probably true).

When he visited Leningrad, he mixed with smiling citizens and even asked them for advice to pass to the Central Committee. "Continue as before", said one. "Words should be matched by deeds", said another, bolder spirit. It was not only anecdotes such as these which gave his speech to Leningrad party leaders a new style; he spoke so freely, without the tired clichés of his predecessors, that broadcasting his speech was delayed for several days and, exceptionally, it was not published in full in the daily press.

He criticized industrial managers for producing equipment which cannot compete on the world market and for wasting expensive resources, the costs of extracting raw materials and energy from the Siberian wastes were rising sharply. He sympathized with ordinary workers, promising them more family plots to grow their own vegetables, and deploring the fact that they could only obtain necessary repairs to their flat by paying for a "moonlighter" who would steal his materials from the state.

His solutions, however, were not new. He praised a young specialist who had taken a substantial drop in wages for the pleasure of transferring to the automation section of his factory, and demanded an improvement in labour productivity to boost falling growth rates to a minimum of four per cent. He told managers not to bank on a quiet life and to stop inflating their output figures in their reports to the centre. "Your plan targets are probably too low", he said to the loud laughter of those present. Significantly, in view of his needs to strengthen his support in the Central Committee before the February congress, he warned that those who hindered finding a solution to the state's problems "simply must get out of the way".

Mr Gorbachov promoted several of his closest colleagues at the April plenum; but of the top 23 men in the Politburo and Secretariat, only six were not already members of one of these top bodies years ago under President Brezhnev. Substantial changes take time in the USSR, and fundamental reforms are almost impossible in the face of bureaucratic opposition. Mr Gorbachov can demand better discipline and less drunkenness. He can even say how many tons of fuel would be saved by extending the use of the new wide-swath reapers. But he has yet to suggest how to introduce genuine incentives to encourage greater efficiency and stimulate the faltering economy.

Leading politicians from West Germany, Italy, India and the United States who have recently visited the Kremlin agree that Mr Gorbachov is both affable and tough. His proposals on arms control merely echo those of his predecessors and show no sign of flexibility. He has agreed to some increase in trade with the United States, but according to the US Secretary for Commerce, Mr Malcolm Baldrige, no major change is expected. As for a summit with President Reagan, that is not high in the priorities of the new-style leadership.

been eliminated. In addition, a consortium led by Rockwell International of the USA and the Dutch company Hollandse Signaal Apparaten (HISA) has been selected to provide the fire-control system for these submarines.

It is true, sadly, that unwarrantable delays occurred in the construction and fitting out of some of the 'O' class submarines built for Australia, but, like those built for the RN and the Royal Canadian Navy, they have given excellent service and good "through-life" value for money. Neither the Swedes nor the West Germans have up-to-date operational experience on which to base the design, construction and equipment of large ocean-going conventional submarines, and the US has not built a conventional

Submarine contracts

From Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch
Sir, For some years Australian governments have had to contemplate the need to replace the Royal Australian Navy's force of six British-designed and built 'O' class conventional submarines - said by the Editor of *Jane's Fighting Ships* to be "probably the best diesel-engined boats ever built, and notable for their silent operation".

It is most disturbing therefore to learn (Lloyd's List, May 23) that the US\$1.8 billion contract for six conventional submarines for the RAN is to be let either to Kockums AB of Sweden or Howaldtswerke-Deutsche-Werft (HDW) of West Germany, other contenders having

submarine since 1959.

Given the recent improvement in the performance of British shipyards, arising from creative management and the consequent improvement in workforce attitudes (even if there is still some way to go), surely Britain ought to have won the contract for the RAN's new submarines.

Why have we not done so? Is it a typical failure of our Secretaries of State for Industry, Defence and Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs to get their act together, to provide an important sector of Britain's maritime resources with a cutting edge in the world market?

IAN MCGEOCH,
Southern, Castle Hedingham,
Halstead, Essex.

Hindley parole decision

From Lord Longford
Sir, I am not sure which is the more astounding of two recent developments in the treatment of Myra Hindley, now in her twentieth year of imprisonment. In the first place we have the decision of the Parole Board to set aside the strong support for her parole ("release on licence") from the local review committee, whose chairman interviewed her, and the very favourable report from the prison.

Secondly, we have the extraordinary poll conducted by *The Times* by telephone (report May 29), in which the general public, who have no idea what she is like, have expressed their warm approval of the decision of the Parole Board. The latter, with the endorsement of the Home Secretary, have said that she cannot be considered for parole for at least five years.

Powerful elements in the popular press have persecuted Myra Hindley in the most vicious fashion for many years. One daily newspaper ran articles about her for five consecutive days; another published three articles about her on one day, in indignation at the idea that she might be able to receive a measure of justice.

Future of universities

From Dr John Wakeford
Sir, It is good to see that you (leading article, May 22) and your correspondent, Max Taylor (May 27), are questioning the nature of university education.

Fifteen years ago a group of academics at Lancaster asked the same questions and our answers provided the basis for a unique development in university undergraduate education at that time: a degree designed by the student him or herself in which attendance at relevant courses focuses on a core of supervised independent work.

This novel use of academic staff and resources has over the years proved to develop enterprise and initiative and many of the other personal and practical skills to which you and your correspondent refer.

Our graduates have not only made contributions to scholarship in the arts but also have a high employment rate, many in industry, commerce and public service.

Perhaps it is now time for a thorough re-examination of what constitutes a "university education".

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WAKEFORD,
Acting Director,
School of Independent Studies,
University of Lancaster,
Lancaster College,
Baillrigg,
Lancaster,
May 28.

VAT on church repairs

From the Secretary of The Churches Main Committee
Sir, The Churches Main Committee would strongly support the plea by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, reported by your Property Correspondent (May 28), for relief from value-added tax on the cost of repairing historic buildings.

The large number of listed churches form a substantial part of our national heritage and the annual cost of their repair through voluntary subscriptions runs into many millions of pounds. In this situation, the committee made representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the context of his recent Budget as to the desirability, in very many instances, of properly maintaining an historic building rather than seeking to alter it. Tax law discourages this.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD M. THIMONT,
The Churches Main Committee,
Fridley House,
Little College Street,
Westminster, SW1,
May 29.

JARY
SANDY
LAND
Zealand
ence in
h farming

Copland, who died in New Zealand at the age of 80, was a New Zealander who came to Britain in 1921. During his many years in New Zealand, he had a far-reaching influence on British farming. Known as "Sandy", Copland was a team of New Zealanders who were assigned to the New Zealand team in the 1950s. He was assigned to the New Zealand team in the 1950s. He was assigned to the New Zealand team in the 1950s. He was assigned to the New Zealand team in the 1950s.

V PERCIVAL
DNER-SMITH
Dean of Jesus College, Cambridge, from 1922 to 1925. He was a well-respected theologian and died on May 20, 1957. He was educated at St. John's School, Wakefield (1911-1915) and Jesus College, Cambridge (1915-1919). He was a Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, from 1922 to 1925. He was a well-respected theologian and died on May 20, 1957.

BY SHERFIELD
nd writes
e, death of Lady Makins as a sad blow, not only to the distinguished family but particularly to those who were close to her. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her death is a great loss to the family. She was a devoted wife and mother, and her death is a great loss to the family.

June 1 - 7 1985

A weekly guide to leisure, entertainment and the arts

Up the Real Garden path

Sometime in the next three or four months, around 80 per cent of British housewives are likely to enter a socially explosive invitation. "Would you like to see the garden?"

But of that 80 per cent, only a small proportion are what could be called Real Gardeners. Those are the one who are at home with Latin names, know the whims and preferences of every plant in their plot, and go nowhere without their "garden notebook".

There are hundreds of manuals on the shelves telling us how to grow things. But where is the book that tells us how to succeed in looking and talking as though we are someone who grows things? (There is one, by gardening writer and broadcaster Alan Titchmarsh.)

Being one of these top echelon Real Gardeners means knowing which plants are in and which are out, which names should be dropped and which Latin pronunciations used.

These mysteries of style cannot be picked up on a five-day practical gardening course. It is important for the self-esteem of all Real Gardeners that everyone should understand that they have "learned by experience" having started from "a state of total ignorance". It takes about 20 years. Newcomers must know their place.

The classic entrée into this lofty world was described by Russell in *The Education of a Gardener*, one of the sacred books of the cult. He learned gardening, he wrote, from "a leisured class, already short of money but with time, culture and taste". Those are the ideal ingredients: a large garden, a small income (too much money spent in a garden leads to the prime sin of vulgarity) and bags of TCT - time, culture and taste. To these must be added an eye and ear for what is currently in vogue.

The language must be learnt, which does not mean just Latin, but also Real Gardeners' English, with code words like "plant association" (which is not a society for lupin lovers, but the art of knowing which plants to mix with which).

Real Gardeners never talk about "liking pretty colours". They go for form and texture. They are likewise aware of scent. But you will no more catch them stopping to sniff a bloom than you would find them sniffing behind a woman's ear. Ingesting the general aroma is what counts. Similarly it is deemed vulgar to have too much soil showing in a border. It is like showing too much flesh. Cover it up.

Above all, the correct attitude of humility must be perfected and displayed. Real Gardeners never sit at all. (Kneeling

How cultivated is your spade-work?
Pearson Phillips offers a guide to the fashionable in foliage and flower

is their common posture.) The garden must never be "finished". It must certainly not be said to have "succeeded". All that Real Gardeners can allow themselves in the way of self-satisfaction are "occasional days when it really does look rather fine".

Is there no short-cut into this elite? The guidelines in the accompanying tables may help. So, also, may a glimpse of a typical specimen. Like the greater proportion of Real Gardeners, she is a female.

Let us call her Mrs Sarah Digby-Greene. She is aged 50-ish, and known to her friends in the Royal Horticultural Society as "Digger". She has never been seen in a garden centre and she cannot remember when she last bought a packet of seeds (she never even says "seed"). Propagation mania is one of her weaknesses.

We find her on one of her "opening days" in aid of a cottage hospital. As usual on these occasions, "there is virtually nothing worth looking at". Why not? "Two bad winters and two wet springs. It will take years to get over them." Needless to say, to the uninitiated eye, everything looks fine.

"Pity you missed the galanthus", she says. It is probably as well that we did. She is talking about her snowdrops. She has over 40 varieties although most of them look identical. She collected them personally on trips to Turkey, and there is a story to go with each of them. She has also collected Hellebores from Romania, roses from Afghanistan ("a Russian officer was very obliging") and primulas from Nepal.

A voyage round the garden with her involves a succession of dropped names, names of plants and names of people in equal number. "Do you like the Potager? I wanted one as soon as I saw Caroline Somerset's". (In order to drop people's names it is only necessary to have visited their gardens.) She also refers to plants as though they were people, which can sometimes be confusing. "That's Cardinal de Richelieu, do you know him? I thought I'd lost him all, he made a miraculous recovery."

She has what she calls "a long suffering husband" who has always been "immensely encouraging", but who plays no role in the garden other than some occasional heavy labouring. There is "the good Mr Johnson", who "comes in twice a week" and a village youth called Brian "who cuts the grass when the spirit moves him". (It is always "the grass" never "the lawn", unless she is talking about the bit they use for croquet.)

She spurns what she calls "American gadgetry", a term covering most modern labour-saving appliances developed by the burgeoning equipment industry. "I prefer slave labour", she says. This is supplied by "strong nephews" and "unsuspecting young men lured here by my daughters".

She is "very lucky to have inherited good bones". She is talking about her garden "not her constitution. The bones are a wall, a beech hedge, and a collection of mature trees, which gives the garden form."

With these resources and the help of what she calls "my mentors" (Gertrude Jekyll, Victoria Sackville-West, quotes a number of ancient gardening writers whose rare volumes she unearths in country auctions, plus some obliging men in the nursery trade) she has "composed" a garden which has evolved according to her enthusiasms and passing horticultural fashion. She is in the grip of one such fashion at the moment.

"I have felt for some time that something was going on", she says. "I think we are in for a major change of the kind which took place at the end of the last century when Gertrude Jekyll and William Robinson swept away those massed bedding plants and let Nature have more of a say."

What is going on? "Two things. First, more formality. Straight lines. Pleached alleys. Back to the Tudors. Knot gardens. Little boxed hedges everywhere. Get rid of all those curved borders and wiggle paths."

"Second, a complete contrast. Let the wilderness in. 'Wild' is the work I keep hearing. *Sylvesteria* and *Wigandia* is the Latin to look for. I'm scrapping the herbaceous border. It was too much work, anyway. We're laying down a wildflower meadow instead. Now, if you'll excuse me, I must go and talk to a man who is going to let me ravage his cowslip collection."

So there it is. Apart from all the other niceties, in-touch gardeners must now combine formality with freedom. A case of knots on one side, forget-me-nots on the other.



Mrs Sarah Digby-Greene, wielding her trusty fork, is a Real Gardener. Her long-suffering husband is not to be seen, but she is assisted by Mr Johnson who comes in twice a week and the village youth, Brian, who cuts the grass. She often refers to plants as though they were people, which can be confusing. "Diggers", as she is known to her friends in the Royal Horticultural Society, is dressed for the garden: man's cap in Donegal tweed, green Husky waistcoat, Guernsey jersey, and ex-Women's Land Army khaki trousers tucked into green Hunter wellington boots. She also has a green apron with pockets, containing a ball of green twine, some raffia, Swiss Felco secateurs and a supply of pure zinc plant labels of a design known as "the Old Fashioned Country House Gardea Label". She is looking forward to an RHS lecture on wildflowers - a sure sign of a trend.

AVANT GARDENS

One of the new, bright, colourful cultivars of the species *Medea Gardneri*, Alan Titchmarsh, has written a helpful guide to the horticultural one-upmanship called *Avant Gardening* (Souvenir Press). He was only half-joking. For he attended many of his hunts on "in" planting in a 20ft by 40ft garden he designed for this year's Chelsea Show. The result? A gold medal. "In" Gardeners' Bookshop: Landman's Bookshop Ltd, Bucken Hill, Bromley, Kent. Herefordshire (0885 23420). Some "in" books: *The Education of a Gardener*: Russell Page, Collins. *Home and Garden*: Gertrude Jekyll (Macmillan). *The English Flower Garden* (New Edition): The Butterfly Garden. *William Robinson and Clive Farrall* (Michael Joseph). *How to Make a Wild Life Garden*: Chris Barnes (Elm Tree Books).

More information for "in" gardeners can be had from the following sources or public Press: Wildflower seeds: John Chambers, 15 Westleigh Road, Barton Seagrave, Kettering, Northants. 0533 681632 (Chris Barnes gives RHS lecture Tuesday Aug 6, 2.30 pm, New Hall, Greycote Street, NW1.) Help with the language: *The Collingridge Dictionary of Plant Names* for pronunciation, derivation and meaning. Foreign plant hunting: Botanical expeditions arranged by Fairways & Swinford, 37 Abbey Road, St John's Wood, London NW8, and Raoul Moxley Travel, 76 Elmburne Road, London SW17. Examples of potagers: Barnsley House, near Cirencester, Glos (open Wednesdays) The Dour House, Badminton, Avon. For old roses: David Austin, Abingdon, Wokingham, West Midlands. Peter Seales, London Road, Attleborough, Norfolk. Sundries: Soft green twine: 100ft rolls from The Country Garden, Binns Close, Coventry (0203 473394). Old-fashioned zinc plant labels: Barnaby Gardens, Melton Mowbray, Leics (0654 822950). Raffia plant ties: West Lampden Garden Supplies, 20 Junction Road, Andover, Hants. Sussex rose and water plants: Bathchaffs, Chatsell 53, Chalk Farm Road, London NW1 (01-267 0877). "In" plants: Hostas, *homocallis* and others: Hillier Nurseries, Ampfield House, Ampfield, Romsey, Hants (0754 68733). Rare and water plants: Bathchaffs, White Barn House, Elmstead Market, Colchester, Essex. Clematis: Great Dixter Nurseries, Northiam, Rye, Sussex (079 743107). Fisk's Clematis Nurseries, Westfield, Sarnumham, Suffolk (072 873 283). Hellebores: Helen Ballard, Old Country, Mithon, Malvern, Worcs. Herbs and dwarf box: Oak Cottage Herb Farm, Nescotts, near Westbury, Salop (074 581 262). Suffolk Herbs: Sawyers Farm, Little Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk (0787 22724).



SATURDAY

The best in garden furniture: page 15

Garden to visit: page 16

Arts diary	29	Galleries	29
Books	16	Concerts	17
Chess	16	Competition	17
Cricket	16, 20	Opera	19
Drama	16	Outings	17
Football	16	Recreation	17
Football	15	T.V. & Radio	19
Films	20	Theatre	20
Gardening	16	Travel	12

Planting ideas: A checklist for the style-conscious

How to maintain a haughty culture

FLOWERS IN	FLOWERS OUT	DESIGN IN	DESIGN OUT
<p>Foxglove (left)</p> <p>Hellebores</p> <p>Clematis</p> <p>Snowdrops</p> <p>Angelica, Ferns</p> <p>Euphorbia</p> <p>Old, shrub and</p> <p>Rugosa roses</p> <p>Dwarf iris</p> <p>Buddleia</p> <p>Primulas</p> <p>Fritillarias</p> <p>Lavender</p> <p>Anything called a Hero</p>	<p>Gladioli (left)</p> <p>Margolids</p> <p>Rose Galias</p> <p>Petunias</p> <p>Pampas grass</p> <p>Begonias</p> <p>Hyacinths</p> <p>Garish tulips</p> <p>Calceolarias</p> <p>Red-hot poker</p> <p>Ageratum</p> <p>Antirrhinum</p> <p>Dwarf conifers</p> <p>Little pots of Lobelia</p>	<p>Topiary (above), herb gardens</p> <p>Wildlife and wildflower gardens</p> <p>Straight lines, pillars, pleached alleys, brick paths, clipped box</p> <p>Vistas leading to statues, temples, Gothic follies or iron gateways leading nowhere</p> <p>Broad terraces with terracotta pots</p> <p>Spring gardens with Hellebores</p> <p>Potagers and pools</p>	<p>Round beds (above), crazy paving</p> <p>"Little rooms", rockeries</p> <p>Purple trees, herbaceous borders</p> <p>Screens of Leylandii</p> <p>Growing bags on the patio</p> <p>Ornamental bridges across artificial streams</p> <p>Green gravel, spotlights</p> <p>Lakes with stepping stones</p> <p>Built-in barbecues</p>
NAMES IN	NAMES STILL IN	BITS AND PIECES IN	BITS AND PIECES OUT
<p>John Chambers for his wild flowers</p> <p>Chris Bains for wildlife gardens</p> <p>Miriam Rothschild for butterflies</p> <p>Christopher Lloyd</p> <p>Beth Chatto</p>	<p>William Lawson, the 17th century fruit and vegetable grower</p> <p>William Robinson</p> <p>Gerald's <i>Herbal</i> of 1833</p> <p>Royal Horticultural Society and their RHS Dictionary of Gardening</p> <p>Russell Page</p>	<p>Designer urns (above)</p> <p>Bits of genuine masonry</p> <p>Staddle stones, stone sinks</p> <p>Hanging baskets of wire</p> <p>Wooden chairs or benches of Lutyns or Chinese Chippendale design, park benches of wrought iron ends and wooden slats</p> <p>Real wrought iron tables and chairs</p> <p>Fountains at the end of allees</p> <p>An Elizabethan Pink sculpture</p> <p>Victorian cast iron frogs</p> <p>Fully weathered, carved stone seats, pebbles collected from the beach</p>	<p>Gnomes (above), sundials</p> <p>Wishing wells, bird tables</p> <p>Artificial waterfalls</p> <p>Statues of storks</p> <p>Crococot summer houses</p> <p>Rustic log tables and chairs</p> <p>Any tub or piece of furniture made of plastic</p> <p>Hawaiian raffia umbrellas</p> <p>Folding metal chairs from supermarkets, padded furniture</p> <p>All-in-one picnic benches</p> <p>Fringed wicker sofas</p> <p>Flower-decked wheelbarrows</p> <p>Gothic-printed house names</p> <p>Plastic lawn edging</p>
EQUIPMENT IN	EQUIPMENT OUT		
<p>Trusty wooden-handled spade and fork</p> <p>Traditional Dutch hoe and rake with wooden handles</p> <p>Old wooden or builders' barrow</p> <p>Swiss Felco secateurs with red handle coverings - one of the few permissible plastic objects</p> <p>Besom, wooden trug</p> <p>Hand shears (for topiary)</p> <p>Non-banding trowel</p> <p>Long-spouted watering-can</p> <p>Old fashioned zinc labels or older fashioned lead labels with stamping device</p> <p>Tying raffia, green string</p> <p>Old sack for kneeling on</p> <p>Clips for constructing glass-cloches called "lignis"</p> <p>Wooden framed greenhouse</p> <p>Wooden water butt</p> <p>Sythe for wildflower meadow</p> <p>Cylinder mower</p>	<p>Spades, forks and hoes in mirror-polished stainless steel and plastic handles</p> <p>Snap-on multi-purpose tools</p> <p>Gadgets for digging weeds out of lawns and paving cracks</p> <p>Edging shears and half-moon irons</p> <p>Plastic gardener's apron</p> <p>Plastic kneeler</p> <p>Vinyl garden gloves</p> <p>Plastic things: hanging baskets, pots, labels, plant ties, sweet pea netting, strawberry collars (use straw), clothes, plastic coated iron pergolas, model owl bird scarers</p> <p>Electric gadgets: edge-cutters, strimmers, compost shredders, vacuum-cleaner lawn mowers</p> <p>pop-up lawn sprinklers</p> <p>Prominent plastic hose in plastic "hose tidy"</p>		

BANGLADESH

This time we MUST help quickly

Uncounted thousands dead, hundreds of thousands homeless and 1/2 million acres of rice and jute destroyed.

In the wake of the cyclone, tidal wave and floods will come starvation and disease - unless we respond quickly and generously to their cry for help.

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Edited by Shona Crawford Poole

TRAVEL

All clinging like limpets to the Rock

Such a small plot. So comfortable. Is it worth hanging on to? Michael Watkins believes it is

There are two schools of thought about Gibraltar: that we should hang on to it at all costs, or that we should hand it over, gift-wrapped, to the Spanish. My own feelings are more sentimental than rational. Doubtless there exist sound Nato-esque reasons for maintaining the Rock's freehold; but I believe we should cling on because it is as much a part of our heritage as Winnie-the-Pooh, Elgar, Beethoven's Ninth and Norman St John Stevas. To hand over Gibraltar would be like surrendering Shepton Mallet or Godalming.

There is also the matter of sacrifice, lives given in order to keep the Union flag fluttering. It was never a push-over, even since, under the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht, the Rock was ceded to Britain in perpetuity. Despite the treaty, the Spanish and their French allies made two more attempts to capture Gibraltar. The first was in 1727, the second, known as the Great Siege, lasted from 1779 to 1783. It was to Gib that the Victory was towed after Trafalgar, bearing Nelson's body.

What struck me most poignantly returning to Gib was the amount of blood-letting over so small a plot two-and-a-half square miles, to be precise. Lieutenant William Foster died of wounds aged 20 in Gibraltar; Captain Thomas Norman of the Royal Marines met his Maker on December 6, 1805 having "suffered several weeks with incredible patience and fortitude" from wounds received in the "memorable seafight off Trafalgar".

And there was disease: a tablet in the King's Chapel, garrison church, records the death of 13 men, four women and 35 children of a "pestilential disorder". Only Mr Richard Froide seems to have fared well, surviving 53 years on the "plaguey" Rock to die in 1758.

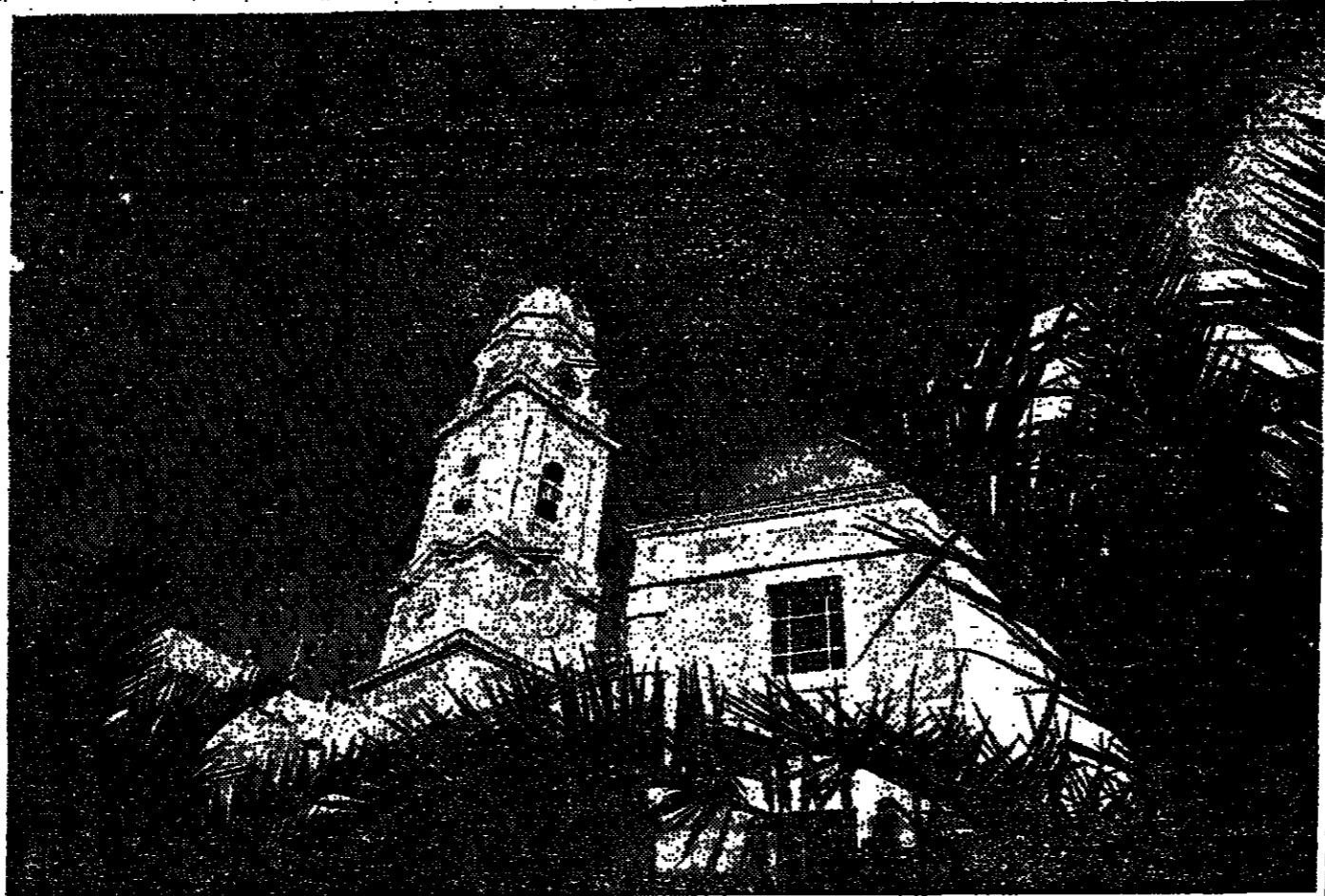
aged 96. He must have brushed his teeth in neat rum.

The Rock Hotel had given me a decent room and the view was as I remembered: on my right, Algeciras, leading mistily to Tarifa Point, on my left, Morocco's Atlas Mountains on their pedestal of cloud. Four tankers were anchored in the strait; a Royal Navy vessel was tied up at Admiralty Dockyard and there, at Ragged Staff Wharf, was Britannia, looking a fraction too much the pedigree among such men-of-war. There were palm trees among the municipal concrete and the washing drying from windows. I watched a cable-car swing upwards towards Apes Den Station; and then I was summoned to the telephone: a car was ready to take me to a meeting with Gibraltar's Chief Minister, Sir Joshua Hassan.

He is 70, a chamberlain, an elegant old crocodile of a statesman. "No, the British didn't create Gibraltar - Gibraltar created itself in the image of the mother country, Spain has been obsessed with us for centuries, but she wouldn't try to take us against our wishes, that's the official line today. It's

'Another up for pinching a camera' Next morning Mr Norman Cummings - aged 73 Gibraltarian bred - volunteered his services as a guide to reacquaint me with the sights. To tell the truth, I couldn't quite make him out. Admiring the view from Queen's Lookout, he said that most Gibraltarians were reunited with their kin in family vaults, that there was no crematorium. What of the 8 per cent Moslem population? They unobtrusively burn them on Spanish beaches, he said.

He also told me that many years ago two British officers wandered into St Michael's Cave never to be seen again; and when we inspected the Barbary apes, who have their own sergeant keeper of Apes, he told me that people used to believe they scuttled across from Africa through secret underground passages. Mr Cummings said all this



Building to consider: Cathedral Church of St Mary the Crowned

the police (wearing London bobbies' helmets) and committed to a watery grave down a chute at Europa Point.

Thinking of bobbies and the law led me to the Supreme Court, a colonial-style 1820 edifice with a charming, elegant old crocodile of a statesman. "No, the British didn't create Gibraltar - Gibraltar created itself in the image of the mother country, Spain has been obsessed with us for centuries, but she wouldn't try to take us against our wishes, that's the official line today. It's

deadpan, his blue eyes widely innocent; but then I noticed that very, very distantly they were amused, too. It disconcerted me so much that I wondered if I'd omitted some vital ingredient from the Gibraltar ethos.

Brigadier Dick Hume, Deputy Fortress Commander, was more straightforward. "We're here as a deterrent. It's unlikely that the Russians will plod in with snow on their boots, but we're here in case, and it's my job to make it clear that we're sitting here, will continue to sit here and could be unpleasant if someone tries to unsettle us."

"For 15 years it was like being shut in a space of an English village, I'd be counting seagulls if the door hadn't opened. Today it's the ideal posting - adventure training. Africa for the asking, topless typists from Brighton on the Costa del Sol or turn left for wild majestic Spain, underpants from Marks and Sparks... now that's an attraction for tourists."

At 10.20am the next day I watched the guard mounting ceremony by the 1st Battalion, The Queen's Regiment. With fixed bayonets the new guard relieved the old while the band played on the slow march, the duty bugler sounded his lonely notes that somehow always prick the scalp. The march off was accompanied by *Soldiers of the Queen*, the crowd clapped,

children waved and the Governor watched from the balcony of his residence, the convent, a building which breaks with traditional Rock architecture. North Bastion, Flank Battery, the Line Wall, were built to withstand attack, not to delight the eye or to elevate the spirit.

There are other buildings to consider: the Moorish Castle, Bleak House, the King's Chapel, two cathedrals, the Admiral's residence, the Old Naval Hospi-

tal. There is Catalan Village, with its stoic attempt at quaintness.

"Stoic" might have been mimed for Gibraltar with its tradition of siege and mayhem. The most recent siege only withdrew at midnight on February 4 this year, bringing 17 years of virtual house-arrest to an end; which represents a whole generation of Gibraltarians who were confined to the space of an English hamlet. Today they are flooding across the border at La Linea, testing the Spanish air; as those on the outside are pouring in, for the Rock has been forbidden fruit to Spain.

The border dispute seemed to me to be a spiteful silliness, empty of all purpose, and my excursion across the border did nothing to reassure me that all

is sweetness now. But there was a time when relations were quite chummy. In the days of the Gibraltar-based Royal Mous Calpe hunt - the huntsman simply blew his horn for the Spanish guard to raise the barrier.

There is something else, apart from a sense of familiarity, which is comforting about Gib; and that is its total inability to shock or surprise. There remains a sweet-puddingness in the atmosphere, an entirely predictable flavour which neither induces extremes of ecstasy nor brings on nausea.

If this sounds patronizing, you should remember that I am referring to life on the Rock; but for the imaginative, there is always another dimension, in this case life in the Rock. What of those two officers who disappeared in St Michael's Cave what of the tunnels leading via Tangier, to King Solomon's Mine?

TRAVEL NOTES

British Airways fly Gatwick-Gibraltar several times a week. Club Class £290 return, Apex from £119 return. The Rock Hotel offers double room with air-conditioning, bathroom and sea-view balcony at £45 a day plus £11 half-board. High summer can be oppressively humid. More information from the Gibraltar Government Tourist Office, Arundel Great Court, 179 The Strand, London WC2R 1EH (01-836 0777).

Ins and outs of duty-free buying

As if holidaying abroad was not troublesome enough, they had to invent the duty-free shop. Are the savings worth the toll taken on your nerves by the queues on the ferries, the pre-flight panic passengers still strip the trolley bare while it is still an aisle's length away?

The answer is only sometimes. Taxing as it is, the duty-free ritual is one few travellers can resist. But with some extra homework, holidaymakers could increase their savings substantially. The duty-free system is a generous tax incentive to holidaying abroad, but not quite the giveaway it appears.

There are three types of tax that maybe avoided in a duty-free shop: excise duty, import duty and VAT. The goods on which most is to be saved are those subject to excise duty in high street shops, principally drinks and tobacco. On an average bottle of whisky costing £7.50, about £5.72 goes on excise duty and VAT. On 20 cigarettes it is about 86p.

No duty-free shop passes on the full saving. Instead of prices which are a quarter of the usual, airport duty-free shops offer savings of about a half on both drinks and tobacco. Excise duty on perfume is only a small part of the cost, so savings there are lower, and the duty on toilet water is very small indeed.

On other goods such as cameras, radios and watches, there is no excise: it is import duties that purchasers are hoping to avoid. But many shoppers are unaware that there is no import duty on goods manufactured within the EEC, or even on some goods from outside. For instance, there is no import duty on Swiss watches.

More important still, the import allowance for goods bought in duty-free shops is only £28. But if the goods are bought at ordinary shops within the EEC, £163-worth can be brought in without paying import duty. The duty-free prices would have to be a lot lower than local EEC shop prices to compensate for this much larger import allowance; so in general, within the EEC, it pays to shop locally.

In most countries, duty-free means no VAT. But Germany and Austria both charge VAT in their duty-free shops, while some other countries (notably Sweden) make it simple instead to reclaim the VAT which you might have paid.

Holidaymakers have three options: to buy locally in shops abroad, or to buy in foreign duty-free shops on the way home.

On the way out

British duty-free shops usually show a fair saving over British high street prices, but may easily change as much or more than the shops at your destination. There is no point in buying British duty-free wine, for example, if you are visiting wine-producing country. French and Italian supermarkets sell aperitifs and vermouths cheaper ashore than on the ferry getting there. In general, there is little to be saved on drinks and tobacco for travellers to Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands. On internationally promoted brands of vodka, rum and liqueurs, prices in the country of origin may still be cheaper than British duty-free. Travellers going to Austria or Spain will only save substantially with British duty-free cognac, while cigarettes are the only purchase worth carrying into Malta.

On the other hand, British duty-free savings become real bargains for those travelling to the Scandinavian countries, Switzerland or Ireland, where prices are high. Buying a litre of whisky to take into Norway, for example, can save more than

Few can resist the lure of duty-frees, but they are not all bargains, reports Robin Young

£16. It is also worth taking your favourite brands if you are going to any Communist country, or Greece or Turkey, and take whisky, cognac or gin if bound for Portugal. Savings for travellers to the United States are not huge.

Coming home

For those who have been holidaying in the EEC, import allowances come into play again when deciding whether to buy in local shops or from the duty-frees. The allowances for excisable goods are half as big again if you buy in EEC shops, and double for wine. But the goods are grouped into categories, and travellers are supposed to buy all their goods, in any one category, either all duty-free or all duty-paid. Tobacco is one category, so you cannot buy cheap cigarettes abroad and then top up with duty-free cigars on the way home. But perfume and toilet water have long been separate categories, so buy toilet water in EEC shops and get your perfumes duty-free (definitely the best strategy for those coming from France).

Since May, still table wine has been put on in separate category from spirits and fortified or sparkling wines, so now the traveller can buy wine from EEC shops and bring home the last four-litre allowance, but still buy a litre of spirits duty-free. Better still, for wine lovers, the new relaxation does not stop you trading down your fortified or sparkling wine option, and bringing back another three litres of duty-paid table wine instead: a total of seven litres for each adult passenger.

Price comparison

Most foreign duty-free shops are substantially cheaper than British ones. On a broad price comparison, Manchester airport duty was recently shown to be the third most expensive in the world. Only Tampa, in the United States, and Vienna, in Europe, were dearer.

Schiphol, Amsterdam's airport, is famous for low prices but is in fact undercut by Hong Kong, Dubai, Bahrain and some airports in Spain and Greece. Other Spanish and some Italian airports are only a little more expensive than Schiphol, while the three airports serving Paris, although charging one-tenth more than Schiphol, are still comfortably cheaper than their British counterparts: Scandinavia airports are as dear as the British, but still show a saving over our high street prices.

Duty-free shops on ferry services vary widely. Some of the cheapest are smaller like Norfolk and Olau, but prices can vary on the same company's boats. DFDS prices are cheaper on German routes than on Scandinavian ones; Sealink's Belgian and Dutch-run services usually offer better bargains than the British and French. Hoverspeed offer special discounts to those willing to commit themselves in advance to buying duty-frees on the return journey.

Prices charged by airlines are more uniform, but the range of goods carried is restricted by space and weight. Charter companies offer the keenest prices and Britannia Airways is a leader in the field. It is worth knowing though, that British Airways deliberately pitches its prices at one-tenth lower than Heathrow's.

Table with columns for TOBACCO GOODS, ALCOHOLIC DRINKS, WINE, PERFUME, TOILET WATER, and OTHER GOODS. Lists items like cigarettes, cigars, wine, perfume, and toilet water with their respective allowances and prices.

Orange juice, and a last drop of peace in Side

It felt like the final act of *The Cherry Orchard*, although in this case we were witnessing the end of an orange grove and the role of Lopakhin, the hunchback man, was taken by a quartet of architects and developers. They had been charged with expanding our small, select, chalet-style hotel to a 500-bed concern, complete with Olympic-style swimming pool, so that it could play its part in the spectacular expansion of tourist development planned for Turkey's southern coast.

The Turtle, which commands the best stretch of the two-mile sandy beach of the west bay at Side, is generally regarded as the most select hotel on the south coast. It originated as a rest-

John Crossland sighs over a new order in the ancient world

and-recreation centre for oil executives but, as the years went by, it attracted a regular clientele. Turks and foreigners alike, these regulars booked certain periods (May and October) when they regarded it as a home-from-home.

Last year we arrived to find a certain "atmosphere". The evening social gatherings outside the chalets were muted and the informal cocktail parties (hosted by one or other of the "beys", as we called them), which had added to the conviviality of previous years, were no longer held.

The party setting, a bamboo-curtained beach coffee bar, was being re-tiled, equipped with smart cane furniture and expanded into a kebap cafeteria with piped music. The young manager-designate broke off his daily jog along the beach to argue for the new order with the older clientele, who couldn't reconcile sizzling doner kebabs with the old languid elegance that had been the cocktail hour on the terrace.

The retiring manager looked slightly sad as he divided his time between "shadowing" his

replacement and poring over the plans for the transformation of his former fief.

The orange grove had seemed a tabula rasa as familiar as the faces around the bar after dinner. We drank our breakfast orange juice and savoured every drop. True, they said that nearly all the grove was condemned, but for some reason Lopakhin's triumphant speech came back: "See how the dull and lowly Lopakhin will take his axe to the cherry orchard and send the trees whistling to the ground... and summer cottages we'll build..."

Side is a small community of transplanted Cretan Muslims living off tourists who come to see the Roman ruins, surely unique in their unspoilt maritime setting. The headland, which once sheltered the slave galleys on which Side's prosperity was built, is crowned by the great tufa-stone ellipse of the Roman theatre.

Last year Side displayed, for the first time, the signs of having entered the front line of Turkey's tourism offensive. A new 500-bed hotel had gone up on the stretch of beach adjacent to the Turtle since our last visit. Not for these guests the half-hour stroll along the beach into the village in the cool of the evening for a raki sundowner.

Instead, "in-house" cocktail circle supervised by a blank-eyed barman and punctuated by a Babal of chatter is apparently preferred to the tiny, harbour-side cafe.

The dish of the day at a favourite restaurant used to be signalled by a lamb's carcass suspended at the entrance with a red rose stuck fast in its



Roman theatre: Villagers dance in the ruins

fundament. The cuisine is now as bland and chilly as the welcome.

The great curve of the eastern bay, where half of ancient Side still awaits excavation, remains a swimming place for the locals. But for how long?

From Side we made the long haul to the Aegean coast, stopping at possibly the world's oldest swimming pool: the Roman baths in the midst of the limestone extravagance of Pamukkale, and at the beautiful sylvan setting of Aphrodisias - a major art centre of the ancient world.

TRAVEL NOTES

Aegean Turkish Holidays, 10 South Molton Street, London W1 (01-829 4148), offer half-board at the Turtle, rising from £247 per person, per week, or £429 for two weeks in April, to £276 per person, per week (£498 for two weeks). Golden Horn Travel, 29 Great Pultney Street, London W1 (01-434 1962), offer one week at the new Hotel Defne, Side, for £298 (£395 for two weeks) and £389 and £499 respectively in July and August.

At our last stop, Altinkum, a so-far Turks-only beach near Didyma, with clear sea and unpretentious restaurants, a hotel manager asked, "Why do you come here? You should go where there is international tourism, like Bodrum". As we talked, bulldozers were tearing up the earth seaside road to improve access for tourists.

We had left Side with the traditional *gule-gule* (you must return) in our ears. As we passed the partly demolished orange grove a large, air-conditioned German tour bus thundered by.

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or sparkling wine
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instead a total of
for each adult

comparison

duty-free shops are
cheaper than Brit-
a broad price
Manchester airport
shown to be
cheaper in the
Y. Tampa, in the
and Vienna, in
better.

Amsterdam's air-
line has prices
undercut by Hong
Kong, Bahrain, and some
Spain and Greece.
and some Italian
only a little more
than Schiphol, while
ports serving Paris
charging one-tenth
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cheaper than their
interparts. Scandina-
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but still show a saving
at street prices.

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at Olau, but prices
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modities. DFDS prices are
German routes than
avian ones; Sealink's
Dutch-run services
offer better bargains
British and French
offer special dis-
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journey.

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is restricted by
weight. Charter
offer the keenest
Britannia Airways is
in the field. It is worth
though, that British
deliberately pitches its
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still table wine

of alcoholic drinks over
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of alcoholic drinks not over
50% proof or sparkling wine

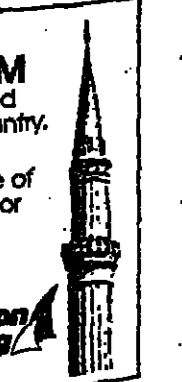
still table wine

ness (80 cc of 3 fl oz)

3 fl oz

from 1 July 1984 - but
include more than 50 litres of

reference for travellers under 17



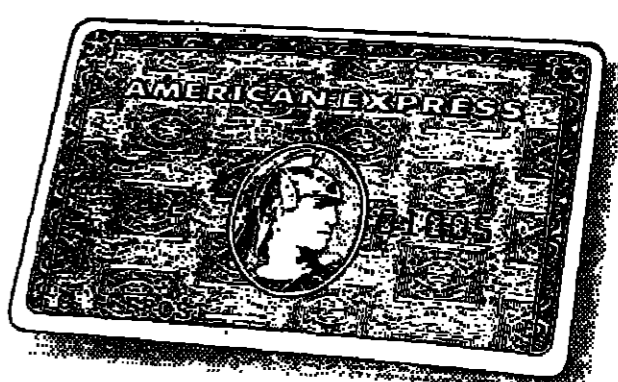
He'd just put the finishing touch to the hall.

It just happened. Four o'clock on Saturday afternoon. He unplugged the sander and thought, that's it. I've earned it.

He went out and bought the bike. A ten-speed Motobecane. The most perfect piece of engineering he had ever owned.

It felt great as he rode off. There was still the kitchen to do, but somehow he knew he'd spend that evening out in the streets.

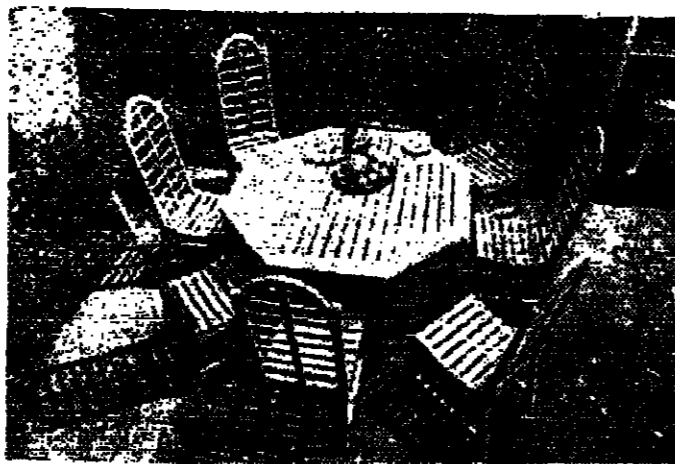
You're almost certain to be within a cycle ride of one of the many stores where you can buy a bike on the American Express Card. If you feel you've deserved one.



SHOPPING

Country seats and city tables

Garden furniture has gone beyond the park bench. Beryl Downing looks at the latest designs for outdoor living...



Well-wooded gardens boast a Richmond suite (bottom left) with round table and wedge-shaped chairs in teak at £264.60 by Charles Verrey; octagonal table about £209, and Edo chairs about £205 each, by Andrew Crace (top left) and one-offs by Lucinda Leech (right), chaise longue £409, table £180, plant box £25

MAGIC CASTLES IN ITALY... MAGIC OF ITALY... Ticket Value... SUPERB OFFER... AVRA HOLIDAYS... LOT ET GARONNE... DONALD HAMILTON FRASER... CHRISTIES CONTEMPORARY ART... HAYWARD GALLERY... NATIONAL GALLERY... PARRON GALLERY... INTERNATIONAL WINE AUCTION

If this year's Chelsea Flower Show is anything to go by, the great British garden will soon be so crowded with teak and iroko you will not be able to see the trees for the wood. In the outdoor furniture world, this is the Year of the Park Bench. There is nothing new about wooden garden seats - they have proved their worth for more than two centuries - but interest was reawakened about four years ago when Green Brothers asked furniture designer Charles Verrey to create a special collection for them. The result was a faithful reproduction of a magnificent 18th century seat originally designed by Lutyns, and a selection of classic benches inspired by Chinese Chippendale. Called the Sheriffs' range, these cost from £165.30 for a chair to £332.20 for a 7ft 10in bench. Everybody loved the Lutyns but few had space for it so this year a scaled down version has been introduced - 6ft 6in, £79 and as beautifully proportioned as the original. "We were such purists about the Lutyns lines that we thought a smaller version couldn't be done", says Ray Scott, of Green Brothers. "But surprisingly Charles has managed to reduce it without any loss of line." Also new in the Verrey collection is a 4ft diameter round table (garden tables are very much in vogue this year and several companies are doing them). This one is unusual in that the six chairs are wedge-shaped and fit neatly under the table top, which is a space saver for small gardens.

The Richmond Suite costs £264.60. Andrew Crace is another designer who specializes in architectural garden furniture. As the descendant of Frederick Crace, who designed the music room at the Brighton Pavilion for the Prince Regent, he is naturally inspired by classic and oriental shapes and his catalogue includes some elegant, high-backed Edo chairs. These are named after a notable period of Japanese garden development and look well with any of his Chinese-inspired collection. They are made in iroko, an African hardwood with similar properties to teak, maturing eventually to a weathered grey. Andrew Crace will undertake commissions for furniture and gazebos and if you have a favourite but decaying piece he will reproduce it - often, he claims, making it more comfortable in the process. Lucinda Leech has not only designed garden furniture for the first time this year but also a sun-ray patio and arbour in wood. One of our most sophisticated approaches is possible, instead of concentrating on the same old rustic or classical styles. Her chaise-longue, semi-circular arbour, trellis work, plant containers and toolshed will be part of the In a Garden exhibition organized by the Oxford Gallery at High Wall, Pullens Lane, Headington, Oxford, from July 6 to 29. They are all one-offs, but special commissions can be undertaken. A large, hand-made garden table designed for a particular space would cost around £500.

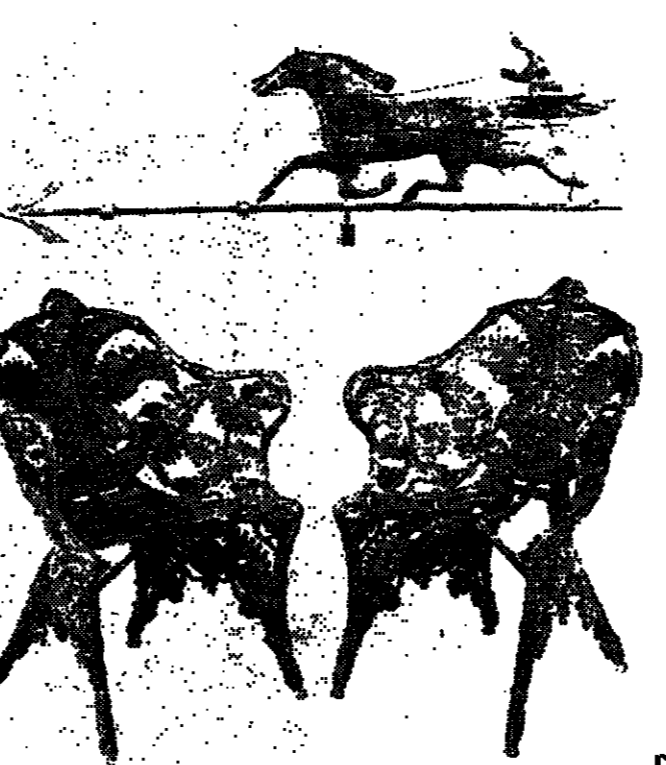
One of the major hurdles in choosing outdoor furniture is its generic title, for it is as absurd to call it all "garden furniture" as it is to describe indoor pieces as "house furniture". In my view, white patio furniture looks as inappropriate in an English garden as a bathroom cabinet in a Regency drawing room. Her curved, slatted seats are made in softwood, painted white or green, or in teak and the frames in delicately curved Georgian style are in bent steel, galvanized and painted. A single seat with arms is £53.55, a three seater bench £112. If you are still not quite sure whether a design admired in a shop or garden centre will look well when you get it home, make a note that when you next go to Devon you should visit Weycroft Hall in Axminster. There Pauline Newton is displaying a selection of all-weather garden furniture in the gardens of her attractive house with its 14th century great hall. Many manufacturers are represented and the furniture might be ordered on the spot or might be in stock at Tatworth Fruit Farm Garden Centre nearby. As Weycroft Hall is a lived-in family house an appointment is appreciated. Telephone 0297 33169 between 9.30am and 10.30am if possible - otherwise just half an hour's warning will do. Raymond Ash, Unit 100, Parsonage Farm Industrial Estate, Forest Hill Road, Stansted, Essex (0279 81577). Visitors to the workshop welcomed. Andrew Crace Designs, Bourne Lane, Much Hadham, Hertfordshire (0279 842685). Green Brothers, Hailsham, East Sussex (0232 840771). In London Armstrong-Waterford Garden Centre, 110 Waterford SW6 (01-731 4717) has a good selection of Charles Verrey designs. Lucinda Leech, King Street, Jericho, Oxford (0865 5676).

Victorian values: above, the bar brooch; below, flower and pearl. Nouveau flower brooch with drop pearl, £475, are typical examples. Among the rare items is a chameleon carnet de bal in silver gilt with a painted enamel scene surrounded by turquoise. Inside is a small piece of ivory and a pencil to note the dance engagements. Made in about 1870, it costs £1,150. Among the many flower brooches are some in an unusual matt, finished enamel. The delicately formed petals in pale pink and white sometimes have diamond centres as a sparkling contrast. These pieces are probably American from the turn of the century and prices are from £450 to £800. Such prices are not for the casual jewellery fancier, but it is unusual for so many good examples of several periods to be seen together, which makes them worth more than a casual glance. The exhibition continues until June 22.

Enhancing the lawns with cast-iron solutions

You may have problems with your modern garden furniture, such as finding it folds up with you inside, or hearing that sickening sound as cheap stitching takes leave of its frame. If you decide to go antique, however, you will find that much more weighty problems lie ahead. For a start, most antique garden furniture is made out of cast iron or lead, and you may sprain a muscle trying to get it on to the lawn. The wooden slatted seat may be rotten, or even non-existent. Because iron is difficult to date, you may even find that you have bought an item that is brand new, but just left out in the rain to give it that authentic, rusty look. However, the call of cast iron has, over the last five years, rallied a growing number of collectors. Having finished decorating the inside of their homes, these compulsive home improvers are now finding that an antique bench or statue can enhance the lawn or grotto superbly. Duly reflecting the demand such stockists as Clifton Nurseries and auctioneers like Sotheby's are expanding their antique furniture departments. Turnover in all outlets is unpredictable, and so prospective buyers are recommended to telephone and check supplies before setting out to buy. Most common is the 19th-century cast iron bench, usually by Colebrookdale, the company

regarded as serious collecting items - it is best to look for a blend of practicality, reasonable prices and looks. Every two months Sotheby's at Pulborough in West Sussex have auctions which include antique garden furniture. The next one is on July 9, when up to 20 lots will come up including cast-iron benches, garden figures, urns and a decorative Georgian lead cistern which could be used to catch rain water. Christie's South Kensington started up their antique garden furniture department last year, and have two general sales of architectural fittings, carpets and objects this year which include approximately 100 garden furniture lots each. Their next is due on September 4. One problem encountered by Santiago du Barry is the forbidding weight of many items. "I've got a supplier who keeps ringing up saying things like 'I've got a 20ft fountain, would you like it' but how are we going to sell something as big as that?" He agrees that even selling a heavy spiral staircase for a few hundred pounds might not turn out to be financially viable for the firm. So readers dreaming of giant stone nymphs and satyrs should perhaps put an advert in the local paper, in an attempt to buy straight from someone else's garden. They are probably too heavy to reach a shop.



Under the hammer: Two items from the Christie's sale - the American horse and surrey weathervane fetched £350 and the Victorian cast iron armchairs £800

SPECIALIST SHOPS Clifton Nurseries, Clifton Villas, Warwick Avenue, London W9 (01-289 8881). Stock mainly Victorian cast iron benches, for which they charge from £500 to £1,000 (for example the one with the classic nasturtium pattern on the back). They also stock log-type ends over which you can place a wooden seat, and usually have three or four cast iron tables with marble tops, which sell for about £500. Their recent pride and joy was a pair of cast iron griffins dated 1780 and 11ft high. Clifton also sells reproductions, a bench costing between £200 and £250. Architectural Heritage, Boddington Manor, near Cheltenham, Glouce (0242 68741). Stocks a wide variety of garden trappings, including ornamental iron fences, railings and weather vane, as well as 18th and 19th century garden seats costing up to £1,000. Sotheby's Pulborough, Station Road, Pulborough, West Sussex (07982 3831). Christie's South Kensington, 85 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 (01-581 2231).

DESIGN FILE Revolution awaits

Industry Year 1986 cannot come fast enough, judging by the last of four design management seminars organized by the Society of Industrial Artists and Designers last week. John Butcher, who has responsibility for government matters on design, opened the series by saying that "no quality conscious company management can afford to ignore design, to treat it as a superficial training or to isolate designers from the rest of the company". Yet a question from the floor, acknowledging that new designers and managers could be trained to understand each other and asking what were companies doing about enlightening middle management, was hailed as a piece of revolutionary thinking. Brian Quilter, chairman designate of the National Economic Development Board, said he would put the point to fellow directors at the Granada group. Olga Polizzi, of Trusthouse Forte, and, surprisingly, John Bloxidge, of Wilkinson Sword, whose company has proved very design conscious, seemed

SHOPFRONT Enamelware on display

An exhibition of 200 pieces of jewellery representing the history of enamelling between 1785 and 1985 opens at Liberty, Regent Street, London W1, on Thursday. There will be bracelets, brooches, pendants and objects which have been collected by Liberty's Cameo Corner over nearly two years and have been selected for their particularly fine quality. The best-known techniques, cloisonné and plique à jour are strongly represented. Cloisonné (pouring enamel into cloisons or compartments) has been mainly associated with China since the 14th century but was practised in Byzantium centuries earlier. Some form of fused enamel to metal was first used for decorative objects in Egypt about 1600 BC. Plique à jour, which is like cloisonné but without the metal backing, giving it a translucent stained glass effect, was used by Cellini in the 15th century and had its heyday in France around 1900. Most of the pieces on show, which are all for sale, were made between 1840 and 1910. The two illustrated, a Victorian bar brooch, £450, and an Art

CONSUMER NEWS

Several readers ask whether hand-painted decoration and heavy gliding was safe in dishwashers. Old china should not be put in machines as the gliding may get scratched and the painting may fade. Recently made services, even in old designs and colours, will be safe because new formulas have been developed to withstand high temperatures and detergents. However, some powders are damaging. Wedgwood recommend the following for use in Britain: Chinabrite, Freedom, Focus, Hyleam, Fen-o-matic, Relavix Extra and Waitrose own brand - at no more than 55°C to 60°C. Other detergents are recommended for use in the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. Brand names are given in a booklet Some Facts About Wedgwood, available from the Wedgwood showroom at 32 Wigmore Street, London W1.

DRINK

Best Beaujolais Nouveau misses the boat

Beaujolais Nouveau is old hat. Shrewd wine merchants have come to realize that bringing in the first boatload of new Beaujolais does not carry the cachet it once did. To score any points at all in the vin de l'année game, traders now have to rush bottles of precocious young wine into the shops at least four months before the usual Beaujolais stampede in November. Unfortunately for Francophiles, this rules out France and other European vignerons who harvest their grapes in September.

Southern hemisphere wine-makers in South Africa, Australia and New Zealand obviously have the calendar loaded in their favour with their March vintage and have been quick to take advantage. The Hill-Smith estate in South Australia's pretty Barossa valley was the first in two years ago with its attractive Old Triangle Riesling here by late summer. Last year the South African winemaker at Fleur du Cap pipped everyone to the post, as early as June, with the stylish 1984 Chenin Blanc Sec, harvested and vinified in the Cape in February. This year's first vin de l'année comes from another South African producer, KVV, the national wine cooperative. The first advance samples of the 1985 Cape Nouveau Blanc were flown in on May 10. I can confirm after sampling it that the wine may be first for taste as well as first of the year. Cape Nouveau Blanc is made primarily from the Chenin Blanc grape, which luckily for KVV is an early-maturing

variety, together with several other coastal region grapes. These were picked and cold-fermented in February after a cool but sunny January. Apart from its pale colour, the 1985 Cape Nouveau Blanc has a delightfully fresh, green and fruity taste. If you want to upstage any Beaujolais "Nouveau-loving friends this summer, lay in a bottle or two. (Available from June 10 at Majestic Wine Warehouses, £2.49; and Cape Province Wine, 1 The Broadway, Kingston Road, Staines, Middlesex, £2.49.) Not to be outdone, Australia's Hill-Smith estate has just brought over a new range of Yalumba wines of which the most impressive was the 1983 Cabernet Sauvignon. This splendid summer red comes from the Pewsey Vale vineyard which was first planted with vines in 1847. Although it ceased commercial production during the Depression, it was replanted by the family in 1961. Pewsey Vale's cool climate contributed much to this rich purple colour and vibrant blackberry-like taste would make an excellent June red to wash down summer dishes such as vitello tonnato. (Les Amis du Vin, 7 Ariel Way, Wood Lane, London W12, £3.49; and Gerard Harris, 2 Green End Street, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, £3.49.) June is traditionally a white wine month. If you are trying to keep expenditure down yet still find a wine worthy of fresh salmon or asparagus, look no further than Tanners Chardonay. This Bourgogne Blanc is the sister wine to the Tanners Pinot Noir I wrote about earlier this year and although more expensive at £4.73, is still a June bargain buy. Like the Pinot Noir it comes from the rich smoky-toasty bouquet reminded me of Puligny Montrachet on the nose while its buttery, smoky palate was pure Meursault. It was no great surprise to learn that this Chardonay is "largely declassified wine" from Meursault. (Tanners 26 Wyle Cop, Shrewsbury, Shropshire.)

THE FRENCH GAME OF BOULES



The game of Boules, otherwise known as Pétanque, is suitable for all ages, demanding skill rather than physical prowess. It is perfect for playing on the beach or in the garden and will provide many hours of entertainment for all members of the family. Two sets are available, both made in France: a two player set comprising of 6 boules (2 sets of 3) with 1 jack and a family set consisting of 8 boules (4 sets of 2) and 2 jacks. The boules are chrome plated and conveniently packed in a burgundy vinyl case complete with set of rules. Both sets are easy to carry, making them very suitable for the holidays. Prices - Set of 6 £22.95 Set of 8 £29.95

To play the game, two teams are needed of one to four people. The rules are straightforward, the object of the game being to throw the boules as near as possible to the wooden jack. Points are awarded to the winning team and a game continues until one team has gained thirteen points.

THE TIMES Please send me... set(s) of 6 boules @ £22.95 each... set(s) of 8 boules @ 29.95 each. I enclose cheque/P.O. for £... made payable to The Times Boules Offer, and send to The Times Boules Offer, Bourne, Road, Bexley, Kent DA5 1BL. Or Debit my Access/Visa No. Signature MR/MRS/MISS ADDRESS. Tel: Crayford 53316 for enquiries only

OUT AND ABOUT

Stately homes with strings attached

Fine wine, perfect settings and the great composers: Fiona Maddocks reports on the new-look English concert scene

A concert in a stately home surely presents the ideal setting for escapist musical fantasy.

Canons Ashby, Northamptonshire, built in 1580. Others have a more catholic approach: at Packwood House, Warwickshire, on June 23, Henry VIII shares a programme of brass music with untalented and Fats Waller - an enigmatic choice, inspired, perhaps, by Packwood's famous topiary garden, reputedly representing the Sermon on the Mount. This is an open-air concert, so rugs and umbrellas are advised.

The Stately Homes Music Festival runs through the summer until September 13. At an average price of £15 per head, you can hear Tudor and baroque music in 27 ancestral homes, most of which are still in private hands. Tickets include champagne at the interval, and various buffets and hampers can be ordered in advance.

The festival's organizer, Douglas Reed, has no illusions about why tickets sell: "For most people, an ordinary concert is not enough. Nowadays, they want more than one set of nerves to be jangled. They like the intimate atmosphere, the style, the trappings. And the chance to dress up for the evening."

The festival opens tomorrow at Hengrave Hall, Suffolk. This Tudor manor house, famous for its stupendous facade and vivid oratory windows, is now a retreat, not usually open to the public. Though little of the original interior remains, the exterior is still impressive, as is the small Saxon Church which stands in its ground, and in which part of the concert takes place.

When Queen Elizabeth I stayed at Hengrave in 1578, she was entertained by a spectacle "representing the fayrics". The Deller Consort promise no such diversions tomorrow. Instead, their programme of Tudor music includes works by Wilbye, a leading English madrigalist who spent three decades at Hengrave as musician to the Kyson family. His room can still be seen, conveniently close to the musicians' gallery.

Two highlights of the festival take place next month. The first is the London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble's 21st birthday concert on July 6, when Easton Neston House, Towcester, will be open to the public for the first time in a quarter of a century.

The second is a gala concert to outdazzle all galas, with the English Chamber Orchestra celebrating European Music Year and the birthdays of Bach and Handel in the baroque splendour of Blenheim Palace on July 13. Take a picnic, for a perfect evening of baroque and rolls.



The Deller Consort: From left, Mark Radmore, Lynne Dawson, Elisabeth Friday, Robert Spencer, Mark Deller and Maurice Bevan

STALETY HOMES MUSIC FESTIVAL

Tomorrow: Hengrave Hall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. 8pm. The Deller Consort perform music by Thomas Tallis, John Wilbye, John Dowland and Ferrabosco. Tickets £10.

June 15: Burghley House, Stamford, Lincoln. 8pm. The Consort of Musicke Viol Consort play William Byrd, Orlando Gibbons, John Bull. Tickets £20.

June 21: Burton Agnes Hall, Driffield, North Humberside. 8pm. The Rose Consort of Viols play William Byrd, Matthew Locke, Henry Purcell. Tickets £10.

June 28 and 29: Tattton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire. 8pm. London Baroque play Corelli, Vivaldi, Bach, Handel, Haydn, Mozart. Tickets £10.

July 6: Easton Neston House, Towcester, Northants. 8pm. The London Gabrieli Brass Ensemble's 21st anniversary concert, with music from the 17th to the 20th centuries. Tickets £20.

NATIONAL TRUST

June 11: Baddeley Clinton, Knowle, Solihull, Warks. 7.45pm. The Mikado, Schubert, Mozart, Francaix. Tickets £7 from the Administrator, Baddeley Clinton, Knowle, Solihull B93 0DQ.

June 15: Bickling Hall, Norfolk. 7.30pm. Handel, Purcell, Chausson, Bridge. Tickets £4 from Bookings Secretary, National Trust, Bickling, Norwich NR11 6NF.

June 16: Canons Ashby House, Northants. 7.30pm. Songs by Dowland, Monteverdi, Purcell and others. Tickets £4 and £6 from the Administrator, Canons Ashby, Daventry, NN11 6SD.

June 23: Packwood House, Lapworth, West Midlands. 7.30pm. Open-air. Tickets £8 for a family of up to four people, £3.50 single, from the Administrator, Packwood House, Lapworth, Solihull B94 8AT. General inquiries about regional series from National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS (01-222 9261).

SUTTON PLACE

June 8: The Academy of St Martin in the Fields String Octet play Sestets and Octets by Dvorak, Strauss and Mendelssohn. 7.30pm. Tickets £90, to include champagne reception, seated dinner with wine, and fireworks display. June 16: Angela Lear, piano, in Young Performers Series, plays Chopin, Debussy. Tickets £12, to include full tea. June 19: Brodsky String Quartet, in residence at Sutton Place since 1983, play Haydn, Mozart, Shostakovich. 7.30pm. Tickets £50 to include wine reception, buffet dinner. Full details: Booking Manager, Sutton Place, Guildford, Surrey GU4 7QV. (0483 504455).

BRIDGE

A new approach to the Acol two bid

Advancing unorthodox ideas, as doubtless some prominent ecclesiastics will agree, can be a perilous enterprise. Any iconoclast who attacks the Acol Two Clubs, with its traditional responses, is probably asking for trouble. But the concept that a two-club opening bid shows either a balanced hand, with at least 23 points, or a distributional hand with game going values, has for too long received insufficient critical examination.

I have no quarrel with the accepted standards for balanced hands, but the stipulation that a two-club opening should be forcing to game after the rebid of a suit seems questionable at best.

My reservations stem from the acknowledged flaw in any two-club system, the inability to express hands just too weak for a game demand bid.

Here is a hand that illustrates the problem.

The Acol sequence is easy to predict.

Undignified, to say the least. Originally, an Acol two bid in another suit showed eight playing tricks, while two clubs was used to express stronger game-going hands. I believe those criteria to be hopelessly misguided.

This is a hand which could demonstrate the two schools of thought.

The "Old School" would open two clubs on the West hand, arguing that the hand fulfilled the requirements of: having game in its own hand. Obviously, I do not disagree with that but I consider that an Acol two bid is a superior way to introduce the hand.

The sequence after a two-club opening would start like this:

At which point West has visions of a grand slam, when it is odds against making even 12 tricks. West has no idea whether East has support or shortage in hearts, which is the critical feature of the hand. Now, rather like a chess player who has failed to develop a piece, it is too late to find out.

After a two spade opening, the sequence might go:

(1) West selects a heart cue bid and will place the spades on West's four hearts, it is wise to mark time for the moment.

(2) East's hand is a minimum for a positive response. Whatever construction he places on West's four hearts, it is wise to mark time for the moment.

(3) West knows East must have an ace to justify his three spades response. If it is the ace of diamonds he will show it.

(4) He does.

(5) As planned, East is invited to place a value on the Queen of hearts.

(6) East should indicate interest in third round heart control, not second round club control. If West were interested in the King of clubs, he would have started with four clubs and bid four hearts over four diamonds, permitting East the space to cue bid his partner's suit.

In my opinion, a better systemic approach is to use the Acol two bid for one suiters of limited strength, and for two suiters, regardless of strength. Reserve two clubs for hands playable in three suits, or very powerful one suiters.

Perhaps that may be acceptable. But my suggestion that two clubs is the best opening on:

will probably be greeted with derision. (My further proposal that after a two-club opening, the sequence can die in three of a major as well as two no trumps, will be considered as a downright heresy.) Sometimes, I concede, you get out of your depth, but if a fit exists you will discover it, because a two-club sequence, as distinct from an Acol two bid sequence, invites partner to show his suit after the artificial negative.

Jeremy Flint

IN THE GARDEN

The Roman road back to nature

In nostalgic mood Michael Young visits the last classical garden fashioned in England

"There is but one way for the Moderns to become great, and perhaps unequalled - I mean, by imitating the ancients." Thus wrote the great classicist, Johannes Winckelmann, in 1755.

This idea of the perfectibility of man was the very substance of the enlightenment and resided in the belief that a golden age had existed when man had achieved almost perfect harmony with nature.

William Kent tried to achieve this ideal in his landscape designs, inspired by the paintings of the Italians, Claude and Poussin, and contemporary writers.

Indeed, Kent did much to mould these ideas into an acceptable English landscape style. Yet there remains a quiet irony in the fact that the very best example of this style was not the work of Kent, but of Henry Hoare, an educated country gentleman.

Henry Hoare, with more than a passing acquaintance with the classics, moved to Stourhead in 1741 and immediately began work in a valley close by the existing house. Two rivers were dammed to create a 20-acre lake, and the slopes were planted with hundreds of trees.



Stourhead scene: Sparkling lake, natural vista and discreet temple

enthralled visitor. It was, too, a gain for the educated gentleman, demanding a willingness on his part to allow classical figures to evoke the required response. There was little point in perceiving a miniature Pantheon if the visitor was unaware of the Roman original.

Today the valley slopes are packed with mature forest trees, their billowing masses punctuated by tall cypresses. Beneath these trees run ribbons of brightly coloured rhododendrons. The central feature of the garden however, and the one that holds together all the component parts, is the lake.

One's first glimpse of the lake comes after leaving the house. It sparkles suddenly at one's feet beneath the Temple of Apollo, which is set high on a grassy knoll across the water. From here the paths either snake off up through woodland, mature with oaks and beech, or drop down to the lake's edge, where a five-arched Palladian bridge serves as a platform from which to view the Pantheon.

The Pantheon, now heavily hemmed in by the approaching trees, was designed by Henry Flitcroft in 1754. Horace Walpole wrote of it: "Few buildings exceed the magnificence, taste and beauty of the Temple."

Further temples, tucked in among cascading foliage, are revealed as one progresses round the lake. Always the Pantheon beckons, however, until, en route, one almost stumbles upon the Grotto, a subterranean cave where a statue of a river god sits on an upturned urn, his arm upheld in salutation and his feet washed in water. Here is also to be found a reclining lead Nymph, her plinth a watery cascade.

Between the grotto and the Pantheon, a rustic cottage adds the flavour of the 19th century. Hurry past this cottage lest the classical spell is broken, and enjoy the view back over the lake to the delightful Temple of Flora with its Doric columns, which, on a still day, drop golden reflections deep into the lake.

"Water is the most interesting object in a landscape, it captivates the eye at a distance, invites approach, and is delightful when near", wrote Thomas Whitley in his Observations of Modern Gardening, published in 1771.

Hoare used water at Stourhead in an inspirational way that went much further than any of his predecessors. London architect Charles Richardson, even William Kent, had all been touched with a certain timidity, attempting bold statements but never quite succeeding.

Hoare's achievement there is the creation of a remarkable landscape where once there was nothing. This he did by combining in a magical equation the simplest of elements - trees, water and classical buildings.

Stourhead was to be the last great garden conceived on the basis of this neo-classical formula. As the industrial revolution dawned and land enclosure stimulated the drift of the population towards the city, the image evaporated and the vision turned sour.

Hardy and annual

Hostas have all the attributes of good garden plants. As the plant belongs to the family Liliaceae one would expect the flower to be the most rewarding feature, but this is far from the truth: it is the foliage which pays the rent in the garden. It carries the common name of plantain lily or Funkia. Hostas like a good moist garden soil. Ideally they prefer to be planted in partial shade, and are hardy in this country except when exposed to frosty winds.

The plants form clumps and produce attractive leaves which usually have a ribbed appearance; some are up to 20 inches long. Hosta strobiliana Bressingham Blue has large leaves with a distinct blue sheen and this is enhanced by spikes of white flowers which appear every summer and reach about 3ft high. Slightly different is H s Elegans; the blueish leaves are smaller and the lilac flowers appear later in the summer.

H fortune has leaves about 8 inches long with a blueish look. The forms are excellent: H Aurea Marginata has leaves edged with pale yellow and is topped with mauve flowers; H Ficks, sometimes sold as H Augusta, has spring foliage marked with yellow and a pale green blade; H lancifolia has small green leaves and deep purple flowers. The Hosta which is a magnificent foliage plant is H variegata Variegata: the foliage is clearly marked with creamy white and it makes a large, eye-catching clump. Hosta Thomas Hogg is a hybrid; its leaves have a broad cream edge and the flowers are mauve.

There are a number of new varieties coming into this country now which will need testing in one's own garden, but I'm sure they will become as popular and as widely grown as the forms we know at present. Look out for Francee with light green leaves and a thin band of white; Gingio Craig has narrow leaves, also margined with white, but it is more of a front border plant; Golden Prayers has bright, almost golden, leaves. Plants are available from Blooms of Bressingham, prices from £2.25 to £4.50 per plant.

Transplanting depends upon the rate of growth; those on poorer soils will grow six years and more before they need attention. Tessa the chrysanthemum and only replant the strong vigorous outside pieces. Epimedium puberulum has lovely foliage with creamy flowers peeping through; a hybrid, Rose Queen, has large pink flowers. E. pinnatifidum is one of the best known, with green leaves marked with red in the spring but becoming orangey in the autumn and with yellow flowers in June. Plants available from Beth Chato, White Barn Nursery, Colchester, Essex.

Ashley Stephenson

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 659)

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, June 6, 1985. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 12 Coley Street, London WC9P 9YU. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, June 8, 1985.

ACROSS: 1 Impressive (11) 2 Promote (7) 10 Not fitted (5) 11 Meats (3) 13 Provide (4) 16 Chinese gooseberry (4) 17 Small freeholder (6) 18 Charge (4) 19 Climb (4) 21 Communicate (6) 22 Wild party (4) 23 Leafless water plant (4) 25 Males (3) 29 Crowd actor (5) 30 Enforcer (7) 36 Informed (11)

DOWN: 2 Health (5) 3 Dressed (4) 4 Over again (4) 5 Unshightly (7) 6 Wipe out (7) 7 Hustler to safety (3,3) 8 French mercenary (11) 12 Slow musically (6) 14 Pigment (3) 15 Movable (6) 16 Make suit (7) 20 Ocean (3) 24 Cotton fabric (5) 25 Wise men (4) 26 Near (4) 27 Domed recess (4)

SOLUTION TO No 658 ACROSS: 1 Primus 5 Blanch 8 Pea 9 Guinea 10 Subway 11 Berg 12 Endymion 14 Sturdy 17 Apatry 19 Lewdness 23 Duch 24 Biskin 25 Oracle 26 Fun 27 Agency 28 Drench DOWN: 2 Rouge 3 Manager 4 Sparely 5 Based 6 Album 7 Clamour 13 Yap 15 Teeming 16 Don 17 Abscond 18 Isolate 20 Deign 21 Edify 23 Colic

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CHESS

Queens move in to check the kings

Undeniably women do not, in general, play chess as well as men. Why this is so, and whether there is an innate difference in chess ability between the sexes, are provocative questions treading on highly sensitive areas. Recent events suggest, however, that we may soon be nearer the answers.

Though more women play chess seriously, even professionally, than ever before, the top 300 players in the world are all male.

Various theories have been proposed to account for this phenomenon: from the physiological (masculine strength is needed to concentrate for long periods) to the psycho-analytic (only an Oedipus complex can provide the right motivation for a chess master); from the whimsical (women are biologically pre-programmed - presumably like washing machines - to be prone to distraction) to the outrageous (they just aren't clever enough).

A more recent, and reputable, idea puts the blame on the hormone testosterone, responsible for right-hemisphere dominance in the brain, which might be a useful chess-playing trait. If this theory is correct, it would predict not only that men would out-perform women, but that left-handedness would also be an advantage. My own observations do not support this last hypothesis, but detailed research is still in progress correlating chess-ability with left-handedness.

Whatever theory one subscribes to, sociological influences must greatly enhance the difference. As a war-game, chess has always been encouraged more among boys than girls. Sexual segregation in tournaments has encouraged girl players to keep their ambitions low, and even the best women players have tended to be trained by men so that they should beat other women. The whole process has encouraged a perpetuation of the sexual status quo.

Now, all that is beginning to change. Three women players have emerged to lead an epic chess school which is upsetting all the old theories.

Twenty-one-year-old Pia Cramling of Sweden already has a number of fine tournament results, including a victory against Viktor Korchnoi. Still more remarkable is the Hungarian Zsuzsa Polgar, aged 15, currently the highest rated woman player in the world, who last month defeated former championship candidate Eugenio Torre in a tournament in New York.

What is significant about both these young ladies is that they have shunned the traditional upbringing of girls' and women's events, preferring to enter the unisex list from the start.

Perhaps encouraged by the example of Cramling and

Polgar, the reigning women's champion, Maya Chiburdanidze (USSR) has now demonstrated that it is also possible to leap over that chasm. By winning the Banja Luka grandmaster tournament in May, she became the first woman in history to take first prize in such a competition. Eight grandmasters finished behind her, including England's Nigel Short. The old ideas about male chess dominance may soon need considerable revision.

At the end of this month, Susan Walker will be representing England in a Women's Interzonal tournament in Cuba. Our best wishes go with her, in what will surely be her most difficult test so far.

The following game from last year's Robert Silk Lady Masters, is one of her best attacking efforts. White: Mandy Hepworth; Black: Susan Walker, French Defence.

1 P-K4 N-K3 2 P-Q4 P-Q4 3 N-K2 N-K3 4 P-B3 N-K2 5 P-K3 P-Q3 6 P-B3 P-Q3 7 P-B3 P-Q3 8 P-B3 P-Q3 9 P-B3 P-Q3 10 P-B3 P-Q3 11 P-B3 P-Q3 12 P-B3 P-Q3 13 P-B3 P-Q3 14 P-B3 P-Q3 15 P-B3 P-Q3 16 P-B3 P-Q3 17 P-B3 P-Q3 18 P-B3 P-Q3 19 P-B3 P-Q3 20 P-B3 P-Q3 21 P-B3 P-Q3 22 P-B3 P-Q3 23 P-B3 P-Q3 24 P-B3 P-Q3 25 P-B3 P-Q3 26 P-B3 P-Q3 27 P-B3 P-Q3 28 P-B3 P-Q3 29 P-B3 P-Q3 30 P-B3 P-Q3 31 P-B3 P-Q3 32 P-B3 P-Q3 33 P-B3 P-Q3 34 P-B3 P-Q3 35 P-B3 P-Q3 36 P-B3 P-Q3 37 P-B3 P-Q3 38 P-B3 P-Q3 39 P-B3 P-Q3 40 P-B3 P-Q3 41 P-B3 P-Q3 42 P-B3 P-Q3 43 P-B3 P-Q3 44 P-B3 P-Q3 45 P-B3 P-Q3 46 P-B3 P-Q3 47 P-B3 P-Q3 48 P-B3 P-Q3 49 P-B3 P-Q3 50 P-B3 P-Q3

This allows a sacrifice which demolishes White's central structure. 14 QPxf1 was the correct way to recapture.

An excellent move, opening new lines of attack and showing how vulnerable the white king truly is.

A neat trick: 31 Rxf1 N-N7 mate or 31 P-N7 BxRch would be the end. The rest needs no comment as the white king is hounded to his death.

Roland Bannerman

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Rock & jazz records

REVIEW

Playing it safe...and guerrilla tactics

Dire Straits "So Far Away" and Bryan Ferry's "Slave to Love"...

Dire Straits: Brothers in Arms (Vertigo VERH 25) Bryan Ferry: Boys and Girls (EG 15 62) Duke Robillard and the Pleasure Kings: Too Hot to Handle (Demon FIEND 48)



Self images: Bryan Ferry in lounge mood and (right) David Byrne of Talking Heads

Just check your prejudices at the door

Is freshness and energy too much to ask of rock stars in their late thirties...

The next from Boys and Girls should probably be "Sensation" or "Don't Stop the Dance"...

Miles Davis plays Cyndi Lauper's "Time After Time"...

Miles Davis: You're Under Arrest (CBS 26447) Miles Davis & John Coltrane: Live in Stockholm 1960 (Dragon DRLP 90/91.2 discs)

If in doubt, try the euphoric strut of the melody called "MD1"...

Coltrane, the former at his most poised and fluent, the latter exploring both his famous sheets of sound...

Richard Williams

Prince, the current court jester of American hippy soul...

Prince and the Revolution Around The World In A Day (Paisley Park) WEA 9252286 (1) Talking Heads Little Creatures (EMI E240325 (1))

On Around The World In A Day (Paisley Park) Prince, star of Purple Rain...

This new record, a sterling example of Prince at his most confident...

One shudders to recall manna and raga pop but here it comes again, albeit dressed up in 1980s studio gloss...

I've a feeling that Little Creatures is about to be severely hammered by the critics...

Max Bell

COLLECTING

Golden hoard from the Coin Room

Golden pennies are coins that dreams are made of, yet from time to time one actually hears of such pieces...

Emery May Holden Norweb died in March last year with her dreams not quite fulfilled...



Coin enthusiast US collector Emery Norweb and the Petition Crown of Charles II photographed to show the actual petition struck on the edge of the coin



The bronze penny was introduced in 1860 - the familiar "bun" penny - and the Norweb collection includes unique striking in gold of the penny, halfpenny and farthing...

Restoration, a competition was held to design the new crown and the ultimate loser, one Thomas Simon...

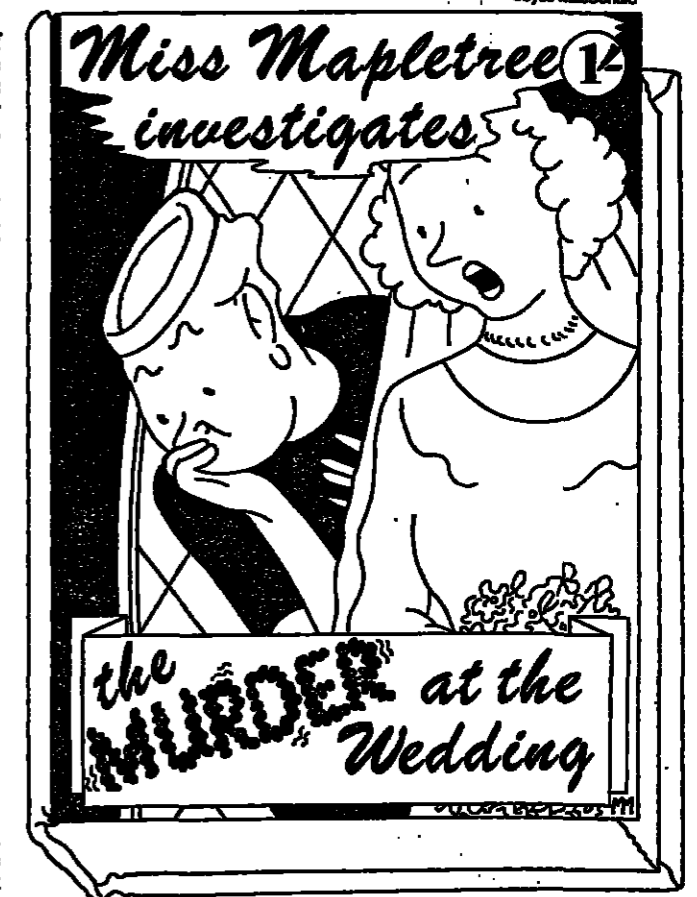
Daniel Fearon

OUT AND ABOUT

Invitation to a murderous weekend

Forget the stabbing and the poisoning, it was when the head of the Australian secret police asked who Mickey Mouse was that I really began to lose my grip on reality...

With time to kill between lunch and the next bit of entertainment - a tea dance organized by Mrs Wilson's access sister, Felicity...



'I arrived, knowing only that someone was going to die'

'It was a hotel where red herring was always on the menu'

MURDER WEEKEND COMPETITION

THE TIMES in conjunction with Trusthouse Forte Hotels offer you the chance to win a Murder Weekend break for two at the Grand Atlantic Hotel in Weston-Super-Mare.

What you have to do: Answer the five questions below, all of which relate to murders for attempted murders in British crime fiction...

THE TIMES MURDER WEEKEND COMPETITION. Questions 1-5. Name, Address, Postcode. Send this form to Murder Weekend Competition, The Times, 12 Colley Street, London WC9N 9YT.

AUCTIONS

MEDIAEVAL MANOR: Sotheby's auction of the medieval Manor House at Ware in Hertfordshire on Tues, including a William and Mary chair...

Scottish beach and George Alexander Napier's oil 'The Confederate Armed Cruiser Shenandoah'...

OUTINGS

SKUTTLERBROOK WAKE: Fortieth anniversary of the revival of this ancient May fair, the culmination of Robert Dover's Games...

National Water Sports Centre, Holme Pierrepont, Notts (0602 821212). Today, tomorrow, from morning until dusk...

Roland Bannister

Geraldine Norman

Roland White

ENTERTAINMENTS

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER CONCERTS AT THE ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

TOMORROW 2nd JUNE at 7.30 The London Sinfonietta presents FULL COSTUME Gilbert and Sullivan's THE MIKADO

AT THE BARBICAN TUESDAY NEXT 4th JUNE at 7.45 POPULAR CLASSICS LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

WEDNESDAY 26th JUNE at 7.45 GLORY OF VIENNA NEW SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL SUNDAY 23rd JUNE at 7.30 TCHAIKOVSKY LONDON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

AT THE LONDON COLISEUM VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents NUREYEV FESTIVAL 29 July-10 August

RUDOLF NUREYEV TOKYO BALLET COMPANY MATSUYAMA

AT WEMBLEY ARENA THE WORLD FAMOUS SPANISH RIDING SCHOOL OF VIENNA

RAYMOND GUBBAN presents TOMORROW at 7.30 pm ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY NEXT JUNE at 8 pm TCHAIKOVSKY EVENING

Amadeus - The Glory of Mozart CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF LONDON

MIDSUMMER LOVE CLASSICS GRIGI, MOZART, VIVALDI, TCHAIKOVSKY

OPERA GALA NIGHT PALACE THEATRE 4th JUNE at 8 pm

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA MONDAY NEXT 3 JUNE at 7.45 pm

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GREENWICH THEATRE 01-558 7155

HANFORD THEATRE 722 9201

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THE WEEK AHEAD

Digging for gold and shaking off the shackles

The first time on Channel 4 on Monday (10.45pm-12.20am) provides part of the answer. She has eschewed making a film which might bring in the viewing public...

FILMS ON TV

The names of women film directors do not exactly ring off the tongue. Even regular film-watchers would find it difficult to list more than a handful.

BBC2 hurls down a bouncer

With what seems to be an insensitive piece of timing, coinciding as it does with the start of a series of cricket matches in one form or another between England and Australia...

Broken promises

The German writer and artist Günther Grass is the subject of Radio 3's Broken Promise (Tuesday, 7-7.45pm). His immense reputation rests, according to your point of view...



Staking a claim for feminism: Julie Christie in The Gold Diggers

Also recommended On the Town (1949): The simple story of three sailors on shore leave in New York has become one of Hollywood's most lively and enduring musicals...

TELEVISION

Wizard from Oz: Don Bradman clobber the fastest club cricket bowler. The all-Australian cast are competent enough but the series leaves me regretting this television version...

CONCERTS

BACH, 7.30pm, Purcell Room, South Bank, London SE1 (01-228 3191, credit cards 01-228 8800)

OPERA

ROYAL OPERA Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1086)

THEATRES

DOMAR WAREHOUSE 01-370 6444

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PUMP BOYS AND DINETTE advertisement with image of a man and woman.

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KAWAI PIANOS advertisement with image of a piano.

THE WEEK AHEAD



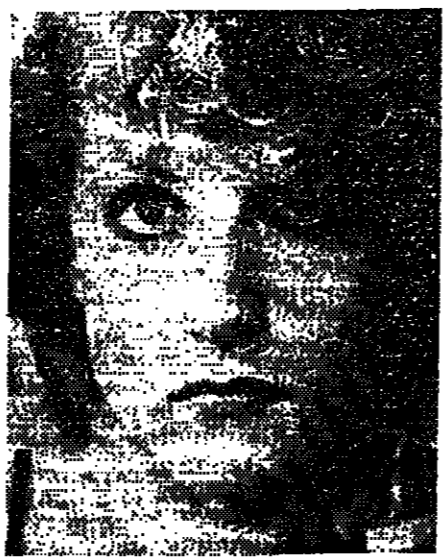
DANCE

ON HIS TOES: Mikhail Baryshnikov, who defected from his native Russia in 1974 to become artistic director of the American Ballet Theatre, opens the Royal Ballet's summer season in A Month in the Country with Antonietta Sibley. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden (01-240 1066) Wednesday; also June 10 and 14.



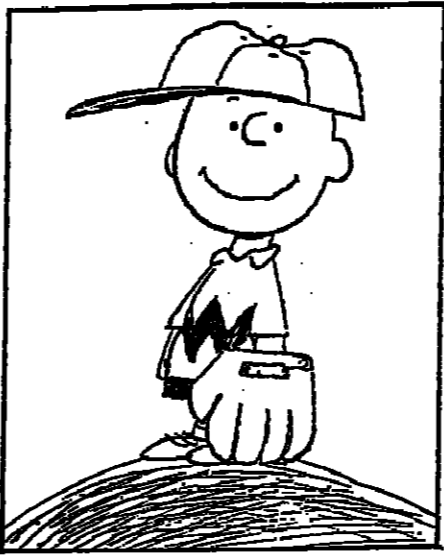
ROCK & JAZZ

THE BOSS IS BACK: Bruce Springsteen was already the world's most exciting rock 'n' roller when he visited Britain in 1975. Now the world knows him, and he will play to 300,000 people on his 1985 British tour. (Tues and Wed, St James's Park, Newcastle. Credit cards: 01-741 8989. Enquiries: 01-491 0044).



FILMS

ALPINE FROLIC: Isabelle Huppert joins French stage comic, Coluche, and Thierry Lhermitte to play romantic games in an Alpine chalet in My Best Friend's Girl the new farce directed by Bertrand Blier. From Friday at the Berkeley, Tottenham Court Road (01-636 6148) and Arts Chelsea (01-352 5986).



GALLERIES

FOREVER YOUNG: Charlie Brown has changed quite a bit since the "Peanuts" comic strip started 35 years ago. Original drawings from the collection of the ultimate Schulz fan, American Jimmy Heineman, are at Bethnal Green Museum of Childhood, Cambridge Heath Road, London E2 (01-980 2415) from Wed.



BOOKS

FIRST NOVEL: Jonathan Raban, hitherto known as the writer of such prize-winning travel books as Old Glory, has ventured into fiction. His first novel, Foreign Land (Collins, £8.95) is about a failure, as father, husband and man, who returns to England after 30 years abroad and hardly recognizes what he sees.



TELEVISION

MAJOR ROLE: Peter Bowles returns for a third series of The Irish Film in the role of Major Yates, the English Resident Magistrate in the Irish village of Skeabawn. One of Channel 4's most popular programmes, it helped Bowles to top TV awards in 1983 and 1984. Tomorrow, 8.15-9.15pm.

ARTS DIARY

Seeing double

The BBC's much-touted new soap opera, EastEnders, is not proving quite the success that its impressive audience figures might suggest. A glance at the tables produced by BARB - British Audience Research Bureau - shows EastEnders well up in the ratings with an audience of more than 12 million. But the actual number of people watching the programme each Tuesday and Thursday is a much more modest six million.

Why the discrepancy? Because the figures are topped up by adding the audience for the Sunday repeat, also around six million, to each of the weekday totals. The BBC's own audience research department dismisses any idea of chicanery: "if you like, I was told, 'it is the difference between tax evasion and tax avoidance'."

It is a nice thought that if Wogan also had a repeat and the same system of accounting, it could topple even Coronation Street.

On the nose

Hamish Hamilton and Penguin Books have just paid what is believed to be the largest sum by a British publisher for a first novel in a foreign language. Perfume, by the German writer Patrick Süskind, has cost them £76,000. But if British taste proves grizzly enough, they should soon get their money back. Set in 19th century France, the novel follows the melodramatic adventures of a man who murders women for their scent. First he strangles them, then distils their clothes and hair.

Like it

An in-joke resulted in the artist, Dick Lee, walking off with the £2,000 Anglia Folio Award at the Tolly Cobbold exhibition in Cambridge. The winning entry is called Così Fantoni and depicts in collage form the diary cartoonist of The Times as a one of his own spiky characters about to draw a cartoon of himself. No doubt the likeness to Barry Fantoni was helped by the fact that as a young student he was a pupil of Mr Lee.

In memoriam

Tomorrow at St John's, Smith Square, the Amadeus String Trio will perform a concert in aid of the National Society for Cancer Relief. The occasion is all the more poignant because the person whose idea it was died from cancer before she could see it. Mrs Muriel Gilmore first met the trio, formed from members of the Amadeus Quartet, in 1949, and attended their concerts around the world. Even when confined to a wheelchair she would rarely miss a performance. Two weeks before she died she persuaded the trio to give a concert in aid of cancer relief. It is being dedicated to her memory.

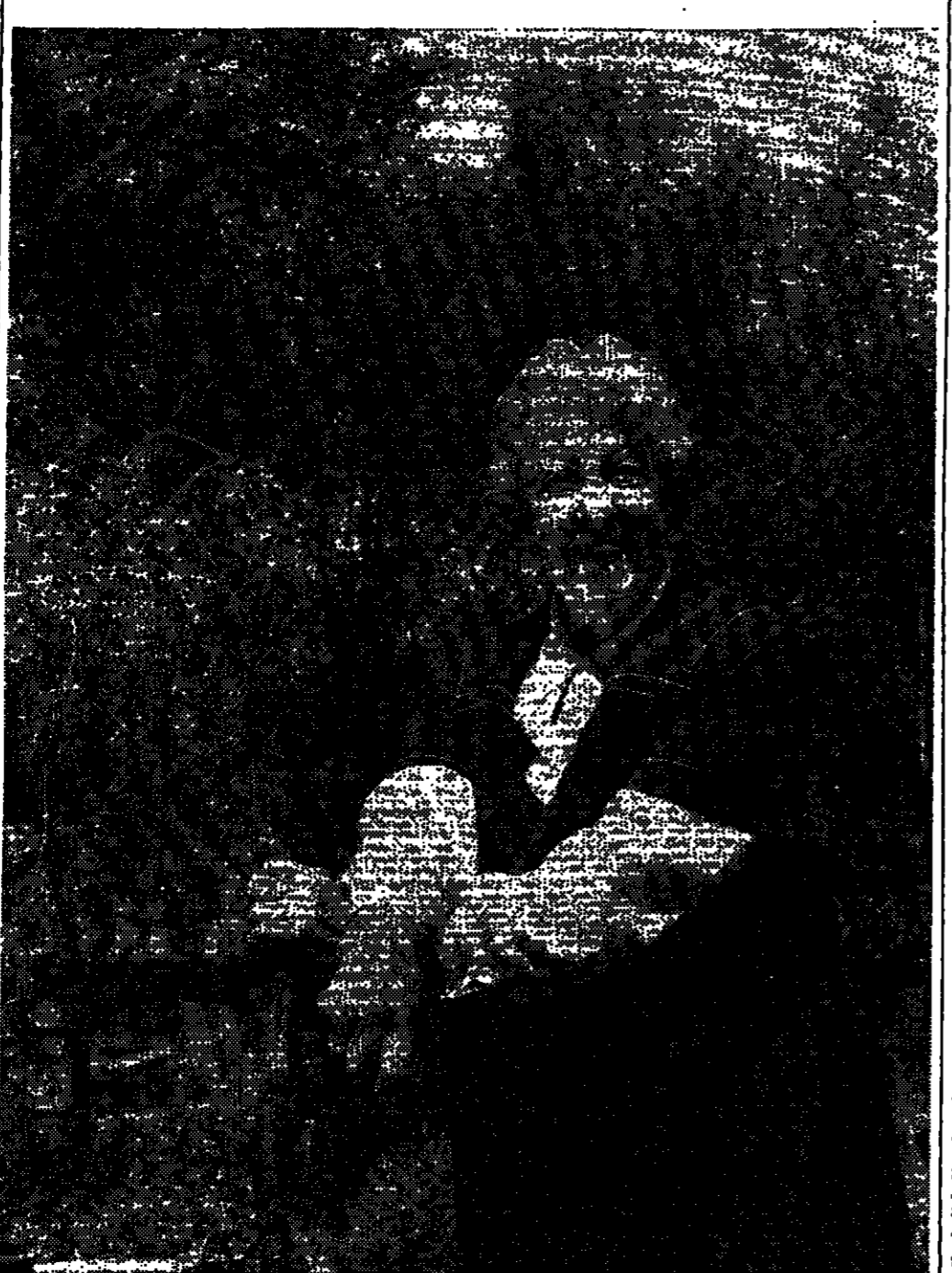
Having a ball?

Although quick to order their costumes and pay £100 each, the 300 ticket holders to the Friends of the Victoria and Albert Museum's Grand Jersey Ball at Osterley on Thursday - a reconstruction of a 19th century ball - been rushing to learn their dance steps. Only 30 turned up at the first lesson - "mostly one half of the couple" says the organiser Sally Ready, who hopes they will galvanize their partners when the time comes. Otherwise, as polkas and quadrilles take quite some teaching, Ms Ready's only hope is the galop. This can be easy if you take small enough steps", she says.

Stage stuck

The Bolshoi Ballet looks almost certain to visit Paris next year, but plans to bring the company here as the next stage on its tour are foundering on the lack of a suitable theatre. British ballet-goers must hope the problem can be overcome for the full Bolshoi company has not been seen here since 1974.

Giving birth to Peter Grimes



Joan Cross tells John Higgins about the premiere of Britten's most famous opera

Joan Cross will be 85 next September. She lives in east Suffolk, a fair distance from Aldeburgh, in one of those villages the British Tourist Authority would cherish if they knew where to find it. The roses bloom, the wisteria clings to the houses and the pub up the lane serves a large selection of local beers and a very decent lunch. In the Cross house a copy of Galina by Vishnevskaya is prominent on top of a neat stack of the last half-dozen issues of Private Eye - indication, if any were needed, of a lifelong interest in singers and gossip.

Forty years ago next Thursday, English opera moved into a different league. The premiere of Benjamin Britten's Peter Grimes was a triumph with audience and critics alike and marked a turning point for the composer, and for Sadler's Wells which staged it. It also marked an important night for Joan Cross, who created the role of Ellen Orford.

During the war she had spent as much time in the office as on stage, running the Sadler's Wells Opera, exiled in the provinces from its Rosebery Avenue theatre until it found a temporary home at the New in St Martin's Lane. She did not meet Britten until after he had completed the score of Peter Grimes, but she did know a young tenor called Peter Pears whom she had engaged to sing roles like Ferrando, Tamino, Vaisak and the occasional Duke in Rigoletto. "I took on Peter against the advice of my musical staff, as I remember, but I'm glad to say they were proved wrong. It was through him that I heard Ben play the piano score of Grimes in a dingy Liverpool studio. Did I recognize that it was a masterpiece? I don't know about that. But I did think it was marvellous and I said to myself that this was the opera to reopen Sadler's Wells when we got back home at last. "There was quite a lot of opposition within the company. The chorus hated it. Those principals who were in it - or some of them - did not want to be and those who weren't wanted to know why they

THEATRE

IN PREVIEW

FIGARO: An adaptation of Mozart's The Marriage of Figaro, by Nick Broadhurst and Tony Britten, who were among the team responsible for the National Theatre production of Guys and Dolls. All the original arias, with the score arranged for piano, violin, viola and cello. Ambassadors Theatre, West Street, WC2 (01-536 6111). Previews from Thurs, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Tues and Sat at 3pm. Opens June 12 at 7pm.

THE WOOLGATHERER: The first play (1982) by William Mastrosimone, whose second, Extremities, was recently in the West End. George Irving and Kate Lock play a truck driver and a shop girl, who meet in a Philadelphia rooming house. Terry Johnson, author of Cries from the Mammal House and the film Insignificance, makes his London directing debut. Lyric Studio, King Street, London W6 (01-741 2311). Previews Fri and Sat at 8pm, opens June 11 at 8pm. Until July 13, Mon-Sat at 8pm.

OPENINGS

THE LONDON CUCKOLDS: Stuart Burge, who directed a London revival of this 17th-century comedy by Edward Ravenscroft at the Royal Court in 1979, is again in charge, with John Byrne's radical adaptation and design. Cast includes Sylvester La Touzel, Michael Malone, Diana Hardcastle, Lyric Hammar-Smith, King Street, London W6 (01-741 2311). Preview Wed at 7.45pm, opens Thurs at 7pm. Until June 29, Mon-Sat at 7.45pm; matinees Wed at 2.30pm, Sat at 4pm.

THE OVERGROWN PATH: Robert Holman's play is about a couple who live on a Greek island. She witnessed the aftermath of the atomic bomb at Nagasaki in 1945, and they have retreated from the horrors of the world. Their peace is interrupted by the arrival of a young academic and the professor's daughter. Les Waters directs. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 1745). Previews today and Mon at 8pm; opens Tues at 8pm. Until June 22, Mon-Sat at 8pm; matinees Sat at 4pm (not today).

THE PRINCESS OF CLEVELAND: First stage play by Marty Crikshank is directed by Tim Albery, with music by the American composer Peter Gordon. Five performers present "tragedy and comedy gaudily together. It's about generosity, confusion and waste". Institute of Contemporary Arts, Nash House, The Mall, London SW1 (01-930 3647). From Wed at 8pm. Until June 29, Tues-Sun at 8pm. Press night Fri at 7pm.

TWELFTH NIGHT: Richard Digby Day's production, with Michael Denison (above) as Sir Toby Belch, Ruth Madoc as Maria, John Moffatt as Malvolio and Alyson Spero as Viola. A Midsummer Night's Dream (preview June 17) and Jean Anouilh's Fling Round the Moon (preview July 29) complete the repertoire.

Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, London, NW1 (01-486 2431). Previews today at 2.30 and 7.45pm, opens Mon at 7.45pm. Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri at 7.45pm; matinees at 2.30pm. In repertory.

SELECTED

OLD TIMES: Haymarket (01-930 9832). Mon-Sat at 7.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm, Sat at 4.30pm. A splendid revival of Harold Pinter's three-hander about shared nostalgia reawakening old rivalries. With Michael Gambon, Nicole Pegnet, Liv Ullmann. RICHARD III: Barbican (01-628 6795/638 8891). Mon and Tues at 7.30pm. In repertory. Antony Sher in a mesmerizing Theatre: Tony Patrick and Martin Cropper; Films: Geoff Brown; Galleries: Sarah Jane Checkland; Photography: Michael Young; Bookings: Anne Whitehouse.

THE TIMES CHOICE

THE BREAKFAST CLUB (15): Five motley high school students discover common bonds while spending Saturday in detention. Agreeably modest and well acted comedy from writer-director John Hughes, specialist in teenage topics. With Emilio Estevez, Anthony Michael Hall, Judd Nelson. From Fri at the Plaza (01-437 1234).

TWO INTO ONE: Shaftesbury (01-379 5399). Mon-Fri at 9pm. Sat at 8.30 and 8.30pm; matinees Wed at 3pm. Ray Cooney's riotous farce of marital misunderstanding involving a philandering politician. A new cast includes Anton Rodgers, Michael Williams and Kathy Staff.

WILD HONEY: Lyttelton (01-828 2252). Mon and Tues at 7.45pm. In repertory. Last staged as Platonic, Chekhov's delicate early comedy emerges as a lovable masterpiece in its own right, thanks to Michael Frayn's translation and Christopher Morahan's production with Ian McKellen at its centre.

HENRY V: Barbican (01-628 6795/638 8891). Wed at 7.30pm, Thurs at 2 and 7.30pm. In repertory. Kenneth Branagh gives a definitive performance as the hero-king, with sterling support from Nicholas Woodeson, Cecile Paoli and Siobhán Frowley.

CARDIFF: Sherman Theatre, Senghennydd Road (0222 30461). Pál Joey by Richard Rodgers and Lorenz Hart. Opens Tues at 8pm, until June 15, Mon at 8pm, Tues-Sat at 7.30pm. Local production of the 1940 musical which includes such songs as "Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered" and "I Could Write a Book".

CHICHESTER: Festival Theatre, Oldlands Park (0243 781312). Cavalcade by Noël Coward. Today, Mon, Tues, Fri at 7.30pm; matinees today at 2.30pm. In repertory. A cast of 200 in Coward's historical pageant, dated in its view of the British between 1900 and 1930, but a richly rare spectacle, directed by David Gilmore.

EXETER: Northcott Theatre, Stocker Road (0392 54853). Little Brown Jug by Alan Druzy. Today at 8pm, Wed-Fri at 7.30pm, June 6 at 8pm. World premiere of a new musical play, subtitled "The Story of Glenn Miller", whose music and life are celebrated by eight actors and an on-stage big band. Jack Elliott, Michael Low, Roger Robert Karas; directed by Stewart Trotter.

CAMBRIDGE: Queens' College (0223 65511). The Company. Fri at 8pm, June 8 at 4pm, June 9, 11-13 at 8.30pm; June 11 also at 4pm. Part of Mayweek at this college, which has a high reputation for its productions. Staged in the 16th-century Cloister Court.

FILMS

OPENINGS

THE ELEMENT OF CRIME (18): Lugubriously stylized detective music, swamped with rain, derelict landscapes, superb photography, and the impressive presence of Michael Elphick (struggling to solve a bizarre chain of murders). The first feature of young director Lars von Trier, shot in Denmark. In English, with Edmund Knight, Jerold Mills, Me Le Lal. From Fri at the Electric Screen (01-229 3694).

FIRST CHANCE

MUSIC AT OXFORD: Summer festival includes performances by Musica Antiqua, Hilliard Ensemble, Amsterdam Baroque, and Gillian Weir and Peter Planyavsky at the organ. July 1-Aug 31. Programme also includes Handel in Oxford Festival, July 6-14. Music at Oxford, 6a Currier Hill, Oxford (0865 864056).

SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: Performances of A Midsummer Night's Dream and King Lear in the woodland glade amphitheatre at Chilworth, near Chard, Somerset, with refreshments of roast beef and mulligatawny. Tickets: £2.50-£4. Box Office: Chilworth,combe St Nicholas, Chard, Somerset (0460 61900).

LONDON MOZART PLAYERS: Concert of Haydn, Mozart and Elgar, during the Royal Academy Summer exhibition, with soloist Celia Nicklin and conductor Jane Glover, June 18. Friends Office, Royal Academy, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 3471, ext 2472).

THE GREY FOX (PG)

Screen on the Hill (01-435 3366) Leisurely, engaging Canadian film about the legendary bandit Bill Miller, finding his way in the 20th century after his lifetime in San Quentin prison. Stuntman-turned-actor Richard Farnworth beautifully conveys the character's roughish dignity.

WITNESS (15)

Plaza (01-437 1234) Detective Harrison Ford opens a hornet's nest of police corruption and hints out with the Amish religious community, where his key child witness lives. Excitingly directed by Peter Weir, an Australian making his first Hollywood film, with the emphasis on the landscapes and culture clashes. With Kelly McGillis and Lukas Haas, wonderful as the wide-eyed child.



GALLERIES

OPENINGS

ROYAL ACADEMY SUMMER SHOW: There are 1,700 works on display, by such diverse and famous artists as Palmer, Burne-Jones and Russell Flint. All newly conserved, mounted and framed. The show includes sections on conservation and how to "adopt a picture". Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (01-928 7521). From Thurs until July 7, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Closed Mon.

THE RWS COLLECTION

The pride of the Royal Watercolour Society, with 65 paintings by such diverse and famous artists as Palmer, Burne-Jones and Russell Flint. All newly conserved, mounted and framed. The show includes sections on conservation and how to "adopt a picture". Bankside Gallery, 48 Hopton Street, Blackfriars, London SE1 (01-928 7521). From Thurs until July 7, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-6pm. Closed Mon.

VENETIAN PAINTINGS

Religious and secular works of the 18th century by Tiepolo, Guardi,

BOOKINGS

FIRST CHANCE

company at Wembley Arena, London (July 22-Sept 7) and the Big Top, Nottingham (Sept 12-Oct 27). Details: T & D World Tour, PO Box 715, London SE1. Credit card bookings: 01-748 1414 (Wembley), 01-741 8999 (Nottingham).

ANGLO-AMERICAN CELEBRATION OF DANCE

Gala performance with London Contemporary Dance Theatre, the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and New York City Breakers, July 11. Royal Opera House, PO Box 6, London WC2 (01-240 1066). Personal booking at Royal Opera House, 48 Floral Street, London WC2.

NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF MUSIC FOR YOUTH

Five thousand young musicians, aged from 5 to 23, perform in youth orchestras, brass and wind bands, jazz, and electronic, ethnic and vocal groups, July 12-14. Royal Festival Hall, London SE1. Advance postal booking open to mailing list members, with postal booking from Tues, telephone booking from Wed: 01-628 3131 (box office: 01-628 8800 (credit card), 01-628 3002 (information)).

LAST CHANCE

BRITISH JEWRY: Exhibition of the contribution to British life by Jewish artists. Camden Arts Centre, Arkwright Field, London NW3 (01-435 8224). Today 11am-6pm, tomorrow 2-6pm.

PRELUDE: Mixed show by 14 young artists completing degree courses at the Slade, Chelsea and other London colleges.

McBEAN AND TANQUERY: Two photographers, both 80 years old, share this exhibition of humorous theatre photographs and 1920s stage and society portraits. Cambridge Darkroom, Dallas Brewery, Gwyrd Street, Cambridge (0223 350725). Today until Thurs, noon-6pm (closed Mon).

LA BOHEME: Two last performances on Mon and Thurs at 7.30pm with Czech soprano Gabriela Benackova as Mimì and Silvio Varviso conducting. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London WC2 (01-240 1066).

PHOTOGRAPHY

FAMOUS FACES: Kodak Gallery, 190 High Holborn, London WC1 (01-405 7841). Until June 27, Mon-Fri 10am-4.45pm. Colour portrait photography by a selection of photographers working for TV, theatre and screen personalities. All rather overwhelming but very high quality.

ROYAL PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY SHOW

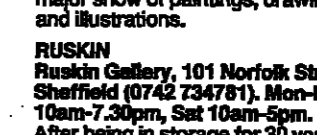
Williamson Art Gallery, Slaty Road, Birkenhead (051 652 4177). Opens Wed until June 29, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2-5pm. Usual hotchpotch of romantic landscapes, moody portraits and stylish colour prints in the society's 125th show.

PROFILE: THE CONSCIOUS CONTRACT

Impressions Gallery, 17 Collesgate, York (0904 54724). Tues-Sat 11am-6pm. Some of the best British portrait photography from 1935 to the present day.

JOHN RUSKIN

John Ruskin (above) lovingly collected to elevate the minds of working men and now on permanent display in a new museum.



EDWARD LEAR

Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London W1 (01-734 9052). Until July 14, daily 10am-6pm. Everyone's favourite nonsense writer comes under the scrutiny of the art world for the first time in this major show of paintings, drawings and illustrations.

THE GREY FOX (PG)

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Major jobs... BNO... Reardon ceases trading... By Derek H... Commercial Ed...

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Major test for Lawson's jobs stimulation plan

A slackening in the pace of rising unemployment seems to have had more to do with Easter distortions than with Mr Nigel Lawson's "Budget for jobs".

The May jobless figures showed an increase in the underlying total (seasonally-adjusted, and excluding school leavers) of only 3,400 - the smallest increase since October.

So with unemployment still rising at between 10,000 and 15,000 a month, Mr Lawson's attempts to stimulate the labour market face a considerable test.

However, another contributor - Andrew Britton, of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research - is much less optimistic.

John Kay, of the IFS, makes perhaps the most unexpected comment on the impact of these changes.

But before it finally expires, BNOG has a few more weeks of life in its role as the state-owned middleman in Britain's North Sea oil trade.

BNOG may end with price cut

The British National Oil Corporation, the chief casualty of last year's abortive attempt by the Government to prop up world oil prices, is nearing the end of its brief and ill-starred life.

But before it finally expires, BNOG has a few more weeks of life in its role as the state-owned middleman in Britain's North Sea oil trade.

Since BNOG has sold in advance virtually all its June-contracted supplies, the new lower prices have been widely expected but will clearly do little to improve sentiment in the nervous oil markets.

Though its imminent demise is now a certainty, what comes after BNOG remains very much up for grabs.

Reardon ceases trading

Reardon Smith Line, the Cardiff-based shipping company established more than 70 years ago, has ceased trading.

The line has four large bulk carriers with total crew of 160. There are also 35 jobs ashore at Cardiff.

Substantial losses on the bulk carrier operation, together with a dramatic deterioration in ship values, led to the board's decision, the company said yesterday.

In 1983 the line had a pretax loss of £8.8 million and last year there was another pretax loss of £1.8 million. Turnover, which had reached more than £25 million in 1982, fell to £13.7 million the following year and in 1984 plunged to £3.7 million.

Mr Bob Chatterton, the line's chairman, said: "There is no sign of any significant improvement in long depressed freight rates, nor in ship values, that could justify the company continuing to trade".

such as BP, Shell and Esso, whose trading departments are well able (and all too happy) to dispose of the extra volumes.

What happens to the oil flows of the smaller exploration companies, however, has become the subject of some lively - and enterprising - competition.

The next two to three weeks should show whether any of these sensible-sounding schemes are likely to take off or not.

What is not in doubt is that the abolition of BNOG could lead to some fundamental changes in the way North Sea oil is traded.

Expensive time for futures brokers

The day of reckoning is rapidly drawing near for the 500 or so prospective members of the Association of Futures Brokers and Dealers (AFBD).

But agreement may not be readily achieved. On present estimates the association wants an annual budget of about £1.5 million.

Unfortunately, some members may not regret such shortcomings, and all will be tempted to meet the letter of the law as cheaply as possible.

The most likely combination is of a transaction levy, to connect contributions directly with turnover, and a fixed fee to ensure regular income.

LMI threat to drop bid

Shares in Allied Textiles, the Huddersfield manufacturer of worsted yarn and cloths, fell sharply on the stock market yesterday when the London and Midlands Industrials group said it would not increase its near-£50 million takeover bid for the business.

LMI is unhappy at Allied's decision to launch a bid of its own - paying £10 million for a

Telegraph meets deadline for raising £30m share capital

By Patience Wheatcroft

The Daily Telegraph, publisher of the Daily Telegraph and Sunday Telegraph, will announce on Monday that it has succeeded in raising £30 million of new share capital to help finance its modernization plans.

Now that it has the new capital the Daily Telegraph will be able to go ahead with arrangements for taking loans and lease finance of more than £80 million from a consortium of banks led by the American Security Pacific and Wardley and the company's clearing bank, National Westminster.

acted for the Daily Telegraph in raising the money. Most of it has come from City institutions - although several turned the offer down - rather than from small venture capital specialists.

The money will be used to finance the Telegraph's move to London's Docklands and its installation of high technology printing processes both there and in Manchester.

These arrangements were conditional on raising the £30 million by the end of May, and should be signed on Tuesday.

in the terms of the offer, particularly the fact that the Berry family, led by the Telegraph chairman, Lord Hartwell, would continue to hold a majority of the shares.

Lord Hartwell refused to surrender control of the company, and was not impressed by suggestions that the company did not appear to be bringing in any new management.

It was hoped that projections like that would entice investors into the shares, but apparently there were some objections to



Robert Owen: hopes for moderate profits

Job switch causes gilts stir

By Peter Wilson-Smith Banking Correspondent

Lloyds Bank has recruited Mr Robert Owen from the stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie to head the primary dealer ship in gilts it plans to set up, in the process unmaking the "golden handcuffs" which are supposed to tie him to the broking firm.

The appointment is likely to cause a stir on several counts. It is a big promotion for Mr Owen, who was the partner at Wood Mackenzie heading the financial futures operation.

There are considerable difficulties for employers trying to enforce contracts of employment in the courts and Mr Owen's move highlights the weakness of golden handcuffs where a new employer is prepared to pay what amounts to a sizeable transfer fee.

Lloyds Bank is the only one of the big clearing banks which has not bought a Stock Exchange firm, opting to build up its own operation on the grounds that it would be cheaper.

Mr Owen has worked as both a trader and salesman in the gilt market at a number of firms. Before Wood Mackenzie he was at Sheppard's and Chase and Alexander's Discount.

One reason why Lloyds decided to set up a separate merchant bank subsidiary was to make it easier to attract and retain people with salaries above clearing bank scales.

LRC buys stake in fertility test project

By Our City Staff

LRC International, one of the world's biggest manufacturers of contraceptives, is investing in the development of an over-the-counter female fertility test.

The company intends that the test, which will allow women to predict the time of their maximum fertility using a urine sample, should be sold world-wide as a form of natural family planning.

This is an exciting product and there will be a very big market for it, LRC's corporate development director, Mr David Sadler, said.

LRC has joined with Boots-Celtech Diagnostics to develop the product. It will fund a research and development programme, costing an estimated £50,000, and then contribute a further £100,000 to start-up costs.

The company will have all the rights to market the test in

Britain and Europe. Boots-Celtech will sell it in Japan and China, and both partners will share the rights elsewhere, including the United States.

Boots-Celtech, half owned by Boots, the retail chemists chain, is already working on the product. It was invented by Dr Terry Baker who is now a director of Boots-Celtech.

LRC has a near monopoly of the British contraceptive sheath market and is one of only two major suppliers in the United States. "As a leading manufacturer of non-systemic contraceptives we felt we should be involved with this product", explained Mr Sadler.

The test could be ready for mass marketing by 1988, and will be sold in the same way as LRC's existing products. "It is a drug-store product", said Mr Sadler, "but over the counter rather than on prescription".

Plessey shares tumble after news of US cuts

By Cliff Feltham

Shares in Plessey, the telecommunications company, fell to a low for the year yesterday as news emerged of redundancies at its troubled United States subsidiary, Stromberg Carson.

The shares slipped 6p to 142p - against a high for the year of 214p - after the stock market discovered that nearly 200 redundancies were being made at the Florida-based business.

The announcement, made to employees in the US on Tuesday, caused concern among some market dealers who felt that Plessey should have released details in Britain

at the same time. "There was a lot of confusion. Some people thought that the whole of Stromberg was going under", said one dealer.

Sir John Clark, the Plessey chairman, had made it clear that retrenchment was imminent, when he reported group results last week, showing a fall in pretax profits of £12.5 million to £163 million. He said then that Stromberg had experienced a bad year and remedial action was being taken.

The cuts now being made involve the side of the business selling private telephone exchanges and office equipment.

Search for Lear Fan rescuer

By Jonathan Davis Business Correspondent

The hunt for a rescuer for the failed Lear Fan jet project in Northern Ireland began in earnest yesterday.

Mr Michael Jordan, the receiver appointed by the Government, made it clear that he would be looking worldwide for someone to take on and complete the project.

Mr Jordan, a partner in Cork Gully, the accountancy firm which specializes in receivership, acknowledged that the task would be formidable as Lear Fan was a single product company, the technology rights of which remain unclear.

"The technology is based both here and in the United States", he said in a BBC radio interview. "I think there are a number of people who are going to lay claim to some of that technology."

"The first task is to ascertain who owns the technology and then to see whether collectively we can find somebody to take over the project and complete it, because that is absolutely vital."

"If we can't get anybody to complete it then, of course, there will be a very substantial write-off because the plant and equipment is all very specialist and related principally to this aircraft project."

The aircraft itself, a revolutionary design created by an American designer, Mr William Lear before his death seven years ago, requires considerably more work before

The project, which was backed by the Government as a potential job creation opportunity in Ulster five years ago, collapsed last week, putting at risk government investment of £57 million.

IN BRIEF

US deficit worsens

The American visible trade deficit rose to \$11.85 billion (£9.40 billion) in April, the third highest monthly figure on record.

The Commerce Department said yesterday that the April deficit, the worst monthly figure this year, increased the US trade deficit for the first four months of the year to \$44.63 billion.

That is about 6 per cent higher than the total recorded in the same period last year. The trade deficit in March was \$11.05 billion.

Pound soars

The pound rose to its highest level more than a year, gaining 1.25 cents to \$1.2865 in London as the dollar weakened in US economic data. Later, in New York, the pound improved to \$1.2925 with the sterling index up 0.4 to 80.3, its highest level since May 21, 1984.

The pound was a firm against all currencies, while the dollar fell four pence to DM3.05.

Brewery ruling

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, has decided not to refer the proposed acquisition by Mansfield Brewery of North County Breweries to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Mr Lew Cartier, the former supermarket chief, last night claimed he had no plans to make a bid for M.V. Dart, the sports equipment group. He had earlier disclosed a shareholding of 7.6 per cent. Dart shares closed 2p down at 28p, valuing the group at about £5.5 million.

Dobson ahead

Dobson Park Industries, the mining equipment manufacturer, lifted pretax profits from £4.45 million to £5.68 million in the six months to March 30. Turnover was 6 per cent higher at £104 million (£98 million). The interim dividend is unchanged at 1.5p.

Directors quit

Mr John Crates, deputy chairman of Crystallite, the electronics group, and Mr Charles Howe, group chief executive, are to leave following "restructuring".

£1.16m takeover

John Waddington, the games manufacturer, has bought Eye and Spottiswoode, the commercial printers, for 165,700 ordinary shares and £115,000 cash, subject to possible minor adjustments in respect of pension funds and tax. Based on a price of 630p a Waddington share, the transaction is worth £1.16 million.

VISION Bowles returns Irish RM in the 'English Resident' village of Skibawn, St. Paul's Bowles to top TV 34: Tomorrow,

1985: on loan from a collection in aid of a 'Pari' fund. Sons, 48 Old Bond St W1 (01-629 6176). July 19, Mon-Fri 10 (7:15-10:15)

ONOHUE: Paintings by the National artist in residence, 25 shows a human sitting from out of a landscape. lery, Trafalgar Square, 3 (01-639 3321). From 30, Mon-Sat 10am on Wed, Sun 2-

JDS: His first large-scale 1981 Tate. Concentrates on two areas from throughout is and the human

Gallery, 42 Inverness NW11 (01-267 4835) until July 26, Tues-Sat 30pm.

FED EAR: Party of Acts, Piccadilly, (01-734 9052). Unit 8, 10am-5pm. 1985: a nonsense under the scrutiny of for the first time in this of paintings, drawings

Bury, 101 Norfolk Street, 0742 234781. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm. Sat 10am-5pm. 1985: casts and minerals

kin (above) lovingly to elevate the minds of it display in a new

TOGRAPHY

FACES: 190 High Holborn, WC1 (01-405 7841). Until Mon-Fri 9am-4.45pm

artistic photography by a of photographers. 1985: a selection of stages and personalities. All rather ting but very high quality

HOTOGRAFIC SHOW on Art Gallery, Stately roadhead (051 652 417). Red until June 29, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm

THE CONSCIOUS MET: 17 Grafton Street, 17 Grafton Street, York (0804 54724).

ST CHANCE: Exhibition of the nation to British life by Jewell

DE: Mixed show by 14 artists competing degree 5 at the Slades.

UN AND TANQUERY: Two rapists, both 80 years old this exhibition of humorous photographs and 1920s and society portraits. lry, Darkroom, Daleys rd, Garkway Street. Today 10 (0223 350725). Today 10am-6pm (closed

HEME: Two last mandes on Mon and Thur yern with Czech soprano la Benackova as Mimmi and Varvok conducting. Opera House, Covent n, London WC2 (01-240

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES, INTEREST RATES, GOLD. Lists various market indices and prices.

BROWN SHIPLEY - HIGH INCOME FUND - LAST YEAR WE WERE NUMBER ONE. THIS YEAR OUR INVESTORS ARE ALREADY 14.6% BETTER OFF. Includes promotional text and contact information.

WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including company names, prices, and changes. Includes sections for 'Early gain for Dow' and 'Nabisco led the active, up 1 1/2 to 8 1/2%'.

Early gain for Dow

New York (Agencies) - Shares were mixed in early trading under the weight of several negative economic reports...

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 2.24 points to 1,308.07. Declines led advances by a five-triple margin.

Nabisco led the active, up 1 1/2 to 8 1/2%. Other food stocks continued to enjoy the benefits of merger speculation...

IBM, which said on Thursday it expected a slight decline in second-quarter earnings, was down 1/2 to 127 1/2.

Long Island Lighting company added 1 3/4 to 8 1/2 after the county executive of Suffolk County...

Middle South Utilities rose 1/2 to 14 1/2 in active trading. Sears (ex-dividend) added 1/2 to 38 1/2...

General Mills eased 1/4 to 59 1/4.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices including LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE, RUBBER, COPPER, and various metals.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Table of money market rates and gold prices, including US Treasury bills and various bank deposits.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies including the Dollar, Euro, and Sterling.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table of sterling spot and forward rates for various terms and currencies.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of other sterling rates for various international locations.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various international locations.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts like Three Month Sterling and US Treasury Bond.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for name, price, and yield.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts with columns for name, price, and yield.

INSURANCE BONDS AND FUNDS

Table of insurance bonds and funds with columns for name, price, and yield.

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

Table of authorized unit trusts with columns for name, price, and yield.

APPOINTMENTS

British Sports and Allied Industries Federation: Mr Chris Grindlays Bank Mr B. B. Dickins has been made managing director.

APPOINTMENTS

East Surrey Building Society: Mr John E. Townsend, MP, has been appointed vice-chairman.

APPOINTMENTS

Charterhouse Japhet: Mr Nigel Beaver and Mr Michael Legge are now assistant directors in the corporate finance department.

APPOINTMENTS

Director, succeeding Mr A. K. Tudor. Grindlays Bank Mr B. B. Dickins has been made managing director.

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Large advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured by a 'Compa spa' logo at the top and 'BE DO HY' and 'AW' logos at the bottom.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Convenience store hopes put sparkle back in Guinness

By Derek Pain and Alison Eadie

Shares of the Guinness brewing group, which has been revitalized by the former Nestlé executive, Mr Ernest Saunders, surged 10p to a 227p peak yesterday as the stock market grew excited about the interim profits announcement due this month.

But it was not so much the group's brewing performance which intrigued the market. It was captivated by the company's explosive build-up in the convenience stores market.

At the interim stage Guinness is expected to roll out around £35 million with full year expectations stretching to £85 million against £70.4 million.

Mr Saunders, drafted in when the once proud Guinness was suffering acute agonies, cut back on the group's multitude of operations, concentrating on brewing, retailing and shop equipment.

He has since expanded the group's retail spread through a series of intriguing deals, costing around £60 million.

Now Guinness is a big power in the developing convenience stores business and many stock market observers would be surprised if it attempted another significant high street bid.

W. H. Smith & Son and John Meuzies are two chains which are reported to be in the Saunders sights.

Convenience retailing is an important element of the American market although it has still to make much headway in this country where it is still the domain of the corner store.

Some market observers suggest that Guinness retail profits, as it increasingly dominates the fragmented corner stores business, could hit £25 million in a few years.

But the famous stout brewery's shares are now on a traditional brewery rating, a distinction they have not enjoyed for years.

As Mr Kevin Feeny, at W. Greenwell & Co, the broker, put it: "The share price reflects the market's expectations of great things from the retail division. But the question is when will we see significant profits from this side of the business?"

Equities ended the long three-week account on a dull note with the FT 30-share index shading 2.1 points to 1,002.5 points, just 0.6 points down on the account.

The more broadly based FT-SE share index finished 1.7 points down at 1,313 points.

Government stocks, reflecting the strength of the pound, were firm with gains of up to 2 1/2%.

£600 million gilts issue had little immediate impact.

Among blue chips, Plessey fell 6p to 142p, another new low for the year, on its redundancies at its Florida operation, British Aerospace lost altitude but then regained some of momentum on speculation about possible an Indonesian order.

Oils were unsettled by the imminent Opec monitoring meeting.

Hanson Trust rose 2p to 234p. Interim figures are due on Tuesday with forecasts stretching from £95 million to £110 million.

Speculation persists that Hanson is about to return to the bid trail. British Electric Traction, Bowater Industries and Thorn EMI are three of the groups which the market believes have caught the attention of the acquisitive Lord Hanson, chairman of the group.

Construction shares were firm as Buckmaster and Moore, the broker, issued a bullish circular. The broker is particularly keen on Alfred McAlpine.

Mercantile, the high technology oil services company run by Mr Richard Eldridge, has delayed its USM flotation. It is raising about £2 million through a private placing among institutional shareholders and is now looking for a junior market debut next year.

Taylor Woodrow and F. J. C. Lilley, Tilbury Group, on revived takeover talk, jumped 14p to 140p.

United Scientific lost 6p to 220p on profit-taking after the recent bid speculation. Plessey has been mentioned as a potential bidder and Mr Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi Arabian businessman, has been rumoured to hold a stake.

Evered gained 13p to 278p on continued optimism after its results and despite the £25 million rights issue. The company is looking for a large acquisition with possibly up to £30 million to spend.

Westland capped 3p to 146p as in the wake of the defence document against Bristow's bid. Signs of a white knight or at least an alternative bidder were few.

The war of words in Bunzl's bid for Brammer led to a weakening of share prices all round. Brammer's chairman, Mr John Head, hit back at Bunzl's response to its offer document for Energy Services

& Electronics, calling Bunzl's statements "selectively misleading and illogical". Brammer lost 15p to 358p. Bunzl was down 12p to 448p after a line of 350,000 shares went through the market at 445 1/2p. ESE lost 2p to 110p.

Bestobell gained 21p to 241p on an encouraging chairman's statement at the annual meeting. Fothergill and Harvey also added on 9p to 157p on a cheerful agm statement.

Interest is being taken in Squirrel Horn, the loss-making confectionery group. The shares held at 27p yesterday, although the asset value could be about 80p a share.

Lep Group, freight forwarder and transport specialist, fell 18p to 253p on profit-taking after a recent run-up in the share price on the profits surge in 1984.

Energy Capital came off 10p to 42p, wiping out the previous day's advance. Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey is rumoured to have sold out his interests in the company.

Insurance brokers were strong with Sedgwick Group, Britain's largest independent insurance broker, unchanged at 391p on the news that it has agreed in principle to divest itself of the last of its managing agency underwriting businesses in line with the divestment clause in the Lloyd's Act. Via a management buy-out it is selling Sedgwick Forbes for £3 million, plus an additional £1.25 million, depending on profit commission earned between 1983 and 1989. Sedgwick will retain two members' agencies which together handle the affairs of 1,300 Lloyd's names and throughput of £250 million worth of premium business.

C. E. Heath bounced 18p higher to 641p on continued buoyancy following the termination of merger talks with Hogg Robinson. Stewart Wrixonson added on 7p to 609p and Willis Faber was 10p stronger at 689p. Hogg Robinson added on 1p to 257p after its recent weakness following the breakdown of the C. E. Heath talks.

Life assurances were firmer encouraged by the Prudential finding its way back onto Wood Mackenzie's buy list. The Pru rose 7p to 668p. Sun Life was 5p stronger at 844p. Legal and General gained 5p to 690p and Britannic rose 3p to 757p.

Bernard Matthews, the turkey meat processor, continued to rise on investment demand. The shares were up 8p at 369p.

Among retailers, Oxo Price continued to gain ground on optimism over expansion plans. The shares were up 20p at 515p.

Owen Owen, the Liverpool department stores group, was the latest retail group to attract takeover speculation rising 30p to 265p.

National Leisure, which has been building its holidays interests since being quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market last year, is to have a full Stock Exchange quote from Monday.

Its Neilson tour operation expects a lower profit than in 1984 because of this summer's difficult market and Villaseca is expected to make a small loss.

The group's retail travel agencies should, however, turn in as much profit as last year and there are encouraging reports by the company on other operations like Camping International, Touring Sports and the enlarged park home estates. The company maintains there are good prospects for organic growth and is looking for further acquisitions.

Bremner Co, the Glasgow warehousemen, held at 57p. Sir Hugh Fraser, former chairman of the House of Fraser stores group, has stepped down as chairman with Mr Michael Black, the managing director, replacing him on 1st June.

Daveports Brewery, which announced a sharp profit fall on Thursday, held at 238p as the company's relationship with Whitbread was strengthened by the appointment as a director of former Whitbread chairman Mr Charles Ridbury.

Allied Textiles Group tumbled 50p to 450p as London Midland Industrials said it would not increase its offer. Disappointing interim profits from Hawtins left the shares 1 1/2p lower at 174p.

Union Discount fell 5p to 698p on its £14 million cash call and Hill Samuel, the merchant banker, eased a few coppers at 298p on its 26 per cent profits advance.

Pentland Industries continued to power ahead on US growth prospects adding on 10p to 965p.

RECENT ISSUES

Table with columns: Issue Name, Price, and other details. Includes Abbotsford 10p Ord (100), Asea Property 50p Ord (175), Aspen Communications 50p Ord (125), etc.

Investment allure fades from property

By Judith Huntley Commercial Property Correspondent

The overall returns on property and gilts since 1977 are level-pegging with an average annual return of 15.2 per cent says, James Lang Wootton, the chartered surveyor, in his latest property index. Going back to 1967 property has outperformed gilts with respective returns of 14.7 per cent and 9.4 per cent.

JLW's spring index shows that capital and income growth for property was 2 per cent in the first quarter of this year and 9.1 per cent in the year to the end of March. These figures are comparable with those for the first three-quarters of 1984 but down on the 3.2 per cent in the last quarter of 1984. This quarter's returns on gilts was 1 per cent and 6 per cent on equities.

JWL remarks that present fall in returns on property compared with the last quarter of 1984 is due to poor performance in the office, industrial and agricultural sectors, which have all seen falls in capital value and only marginal growth in estimated rental values.

Bright spots in the property market such as the City of London office market, around the M25 motorway and west of London, continued to attract lettings this year.

The retail property sector is still strong with attention focused on expected takeovers, group deals and out-of-town developments, says the agent. And JLW argues that the industrial sector is picking up, too, but only near the M25 and western corridor.

Healey & Baker's June look at prime property yields now has separate categories for high technology developments and retail warehouses, a sign of increasing institutional interest in investing in such properties. The yields on both types of investment are the same at 6.75 per cent.

Retail property remains at the 3.65 per cent level, showing no change since the end of 1983. Prime yields on offices at 4.74 per cent have also remained static since the latter part of 1982. Industrial property, on the other hand, shows yields rising this year to 7.25 per cent.

Healey & Baker says the large volume of institutional sales is likely to continue, due to the changing nature of the commercial property market.

TEMPUS All-rounder Hill Samuel offsets overseas snags

The future is uncertain for the City's top merchant banks as they seek to make the transition to all-round investment banks, adding market-making and distribution to their traditional function of underwriting securities.

But they have had a fair wind behind them in the run up to change, especially in the corporate finance sphere which has been going through a boom period.

Hill Samuel, more diversified than most with over one-third of profits coming from outside merchant banking, produced another strong performance in the year to March 31.

Group profits were more than twice higher at £31.9 million from £25.3 million and within the merchant bank corporate finance was one of the star performers.

Treasury and special products such as swaps and floating rate agreements also had a good year, enabling the merchant banking side to swallow a sharp downturn in South Africa, lower profits from Australia and a £1.4 million provision against the Johnson Maitland Bankers indemnity and still show a rise from £18.98 million to £23.3 million.

The only one of the group's other activities not showing an improvement was employee benefit services where losses of about £1.5 million in the New York computer software side masked a strong showing in Britain. The computer business, now breaking even at last, is up for sale.

There is a confident 14.7 per cent dividend rise to 11.55p net for the year and a solid-looking balance sheet in the wake of last year's capital raisings.

About £75 million of capital is initially available to develop gilts and equities market-making in selected fields based on Wood Mackenzie's existing strengths.

New York is still a weak strategic link in the Hill Samuel group armoury, but the spread of operations outside merchant banking developed in recent years are a useful asset in the uncertain days to come.

Gilts

Running the gilts market under an exchange rate-interest rate regime - which may or may not be current policy - ought to be child's play, in terms of the funding programme. Cheaper Fed funds point to continued ease in monetary policy by the Fed, and sterling was certainly buoyant on the back of the implied rate benefit for London, compared with New York money costs.

Yet when the market was poised to accept a spot of conventional tapping, like a 21st century gilt, yesterday, the Government Broker chose to play it cautious and long, appearing at 3.30 armed only with taplets. Popularly, these are viewed as bear market funding instruments.

The choice of stock and the selection of maturities certainly yielded no hostages to fortune. All three taplets - £200 million of Exchange 11 per cent 1990, £200 million of Conversion 10 1/2 per cent 1999, and £200 million of Treasury 11 1/2 per cent 2003-07 - are fairly chunky issues, designed to appeal to building societies, foreigners and indeed anyone who fancyes a gamble on the next cut in British rates.

Does the Government Broker know something awesome about the money supply figures for banking May, due out on Tuesday? Or were the taplets designed to create the illusion of care? A drop in the Treasury bill tender of 12 basis points to £11.8015 per cent suggests that the discount houses are coming out to play again.

But here, as in life, there may well be some heavy gainers and losers during the next rally or slump.

The modest proposal, for

example, from Union Discount to raise a gross £15 million through a one-for-four rights issue at 600p suggests that the group has weathered the storm earlier in the year and re-grouped.

The house states breezily that there have been losses - unquantified of course - but that the shortfall on gilt trading was negligible. The rubber money of the discount houses means that Union's £15 million is worth some £600 million for trading purposes.

Raising sums of that magnitude in time for the new gilt market must mean the group plans to stay independent.

Dobson Park Industries

Dobson Park Industries' strike has been quiet. As a leading piler of equipment, it must have expected to suffer during the strike and then to benefit from a return to work.

But it has turned out differently. Apparently, the National Coal Board went on ordering plant during the strike and now has more than it can handle. Subsequent cuts mean there is a hiatus in orders for the Dobson Parks of his world.

Orders were running normally during the six months to March when profits rose by 28 per cent to £5.68 million before tax. The second half could, however, see a fall, although the company still expects to make more in the full year than it did last year. Hopes fulfilled will mean a reversal of a five-year trend.

If the NCB resumes orders for conveyors and pumps within the year, Dobson Park should be able to keep profits rising.

Even so, p/e of 14 with the shares at 84p is hardly justified by the vagaries of the NCB ordering pattern.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

JEFFERSON SMURFIT GROUP: Year to Jan 31. Dividend 3.24p making 4.927p (3.942). Proposed scrip issue on a one-for-two basis.

CSIR: Year to March 31. Figures in Australian dollars. Total dividend 18 cents (same). Pretax profit \$169 million (\$89 million), against \$160.4 million. Tax 68.2 (\$7.1). Minority interest 8.6 (11.6). Extraordinary loss, which includes foreign exchange losses of 145 million 155.4 (0.3 credit). The board reports that the outlook for the year is generally encouraging. Strong domestic demand is expected to continue.

Financial data tables including 'NEW DEPOSITS', 'GOLD', 'ECGD', 'ES', 'RATES', and 'LARGEST SPOT RATES'.

Table of stock market data with columns for 'Current' and 'Bid Offer' prices for various companies.

Advertisement for Olympic Airways featuring the slogan 'BEING A GREEK AIRLINE DOESN'T MEAN WE ONLY FLY TO ATHENS'. It lists routes to London, Athens, Tirana, Rafos, New York, Toronto, Montreal, Istanbul, Athens, Nicosia, Jeddah, London, Zurich, Frankfurt, Rome, Athens, Nicosia, Jeddah, London, Zurich, Frankfurt, Rome, Athens, Nicosia, Jeddah.

Advertisement for Olympic Airways featuring the slogan 'A WISE CHOICE'. It describes the airline's service to the Middle East, Africa, South Africa, the Far East, and Australia, also to the U.S.A. and Canada.

Large advertisement for Fidelity's Far East Income Trust. It features a map of the Far East and text describing the investment strategy, including the value of experience and the investment strategy. It also includes a form for investors to fill out.

Edited by Lorna Bourke

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But when it happens, the consequences can be terrible, and anyone with a generous nature should think long and hard before making rash promises. This is one of those occasions when it really could pay you to see a solicitor before you sign anything.

Some laws are on your side. Banks owe a duty of care to their customers. Lloyds got into trouble over Mr Bundy, whose farm was his only asset.

His son and his son's company all had accounts at the same branch, and as the son's company overdraft climbed, so the father's guarantee grew until the whole farm was mortgaged to the bank. When the company collapsed and the bank tried to evict the farmer he claimed that he had been unduly influenced by the bank to sign the guarantee.

The bank had a conflict of interest, as both parties to the agreement held their accounts at the same branch. The judge found for the farmer, and held that he should have been directed to independent legal advice by the bank.

Lloyds now sends the forms guarantors have to sign to customers' solicitors. "We won't just let the guarantor sign", said a Lloyds Bank spokesman. "But for other banks' customers we don't insist on it. They can take the guarantee away to show to a solicitor."

You cannot expect the bank asking for your guarantee to volunteer any information



about the state of the debtor's financial affairs, parlous or otherwise. You have to ask specific questions before the bank will tell you anything. One of the points in the Bundy case (1970) was that a guarantor has to enter the transaction freely without undue influence.

Bankers say that women should be separately advised about any guarantee involving their husband or his business affairs. Back in 1910 a woman was relieved of her obligations under these circumstances because it was held that she had no way of forming a judgment on the matter and would have signed anything her husband told her to sign. Some people believe this could still happen. So bankers try to ensure that women take independent advice about guarantee agreements.

You cannot guarantee a debt for minor, because no-one under 18 can be taken to court over a debt. So a bank or building society will ask the guarantor to become the principal of the arrangement, and be primarily responsible for the debt, even if it were for a minor's benefit.

Building societies sometimes accept a guarantee to persuade people whose income would normally justify the size of advances requested. The elderly, where it may be a tax advantage for the person to have a loan which they can't really afford, the young students with little or no real income and couples splitting up, make up the bulk of such cases.

Building societies used to ask guarantors to lodge a sum of money in an account with them

but that is rarely done now. Guarantors are asked to sign the mortgage deed and they have the comfort of knowing that if things go wrong the building society will still prefer to take the usual step of selling the property to recover the debt, rather than looking to the guarantor.

A typical example of a mortgage where the building society would be an articulated clerk wanted to borrow more than he could easily repay. The building society would want a guarantor to cover the early years of the mortgage before the clerk could expect to be a high-earning solicitor.

Be careful about acting as a guarantor on any sort of debt with other people, as you will probably be asked to be "jointly and severally" liable for the whole debt. This means that any one person can be sued for the whole sum.

It is not only banks and building societies that can ask for guarantors - any agency offering credit can ask for a surety. Under the new Consumer Credit Act information about the guarantor's rights has to be included on the credit form. If the debtor fails to keep up his payments he must be sent a default notice. A copy of the notice must also be sent to the guarantor before action can be taken to recover the debt.

The guarantor should never have to pay more than the debt, though this can include interest on the sum borrowed and can change his mind about standing as a guarantor until the main agreement is finalised.

But whatever the safeguards, no one should sign on the dotted line unless he is not willing and able to bear it when the time comes to pay up.

Vivien Goldsmith

What new 'names' might not know

The appalling problems faced by underwriting members of the Richard Beckett syndicates at Lloyd's of London are a warning to anyone thinking of becoming a Lloyd's name, not least because some of those members should probably never have become names at all.

One reason why they did end up investing at Lloyd's may have been through the encouragement of existing names who, whether the new investors knew it or not, were being paid a commission for recruiting new members. The practice of paying commission to Lloyd's members who bring in new names is common but not closely regulated.

The experience of a reader was typical. "Not long ago I and my wife were both approached by a Lloyd's name suggesting we should become Lloyd's members. We did not take up the suggestion because we felt it was not a good time to invest in Lloyd's. But I also felt that these names were not acting for the good of the prospective investor, but in order to get their commission."

The going commission rate paid to some members' agents and some managing agents is currently around £500 per person. This, however, may vary, depending on how much work the name has to do to bring in the new member.

The official Lloyd's attitude to this kind of commission paying is somewhat ambivalent. Although the practice is allowed, there is a rule that both the name receiving commission and the agent paying it, should tell the new member, and Lloyd's itself, about the arrangement. But this is not always done.

John Rew, who is now involved in defending the interests of the embattled Richard Beckett names, said: "The prospective name is not always told about the commission payment. After all, he might well feel he was simply being bought and sold like cattle

if he knew, so the whole thing is often kept quiet."

So which are the agents paying commission to names? "Usually they are managing agents who do not have a good following of member agents, and are therefore desperate for new members. The Sasse agency, which collapsed several years ago, paid commission to names. PCW, before it became Richard Beckett Holdings, seems to have had a lot of half-commission names recruiting people", says Mr Rew.

Some agents believe the practice of commission paying is less prevalent than it used to be. Agents such as R. W. Sturge and Willis Faber gave up commissions some time ago.

Lloyd's is suffering from a shortage of underwriters

But the tendency to pay commission to names may be on the increase again. Lloyd's is now suffering from a shortage of underwriting capacity.

The only way Lloyd's can increase it is to recruit large numbers of new names and the Corporation has said that it intends to do just this. One obvious method is through the help of existing names who may require some financial incentive to bring in new recruits.

The commission system is typical of the haphazard and unregulated way in which much of Lloyd's business has been conducted. And in the shake-up now going on, there has so far been no suggestion that this particular practice should be changed.

However, in the interests of the new names, Lloyd's wishes to recruit, the Corporation should ban such commissions or impose sanctions on agents who do not disclose them. Alternatively, Lloyd's could go the whole hog and set up an official recruitment agency of its own.

Richard Thomson

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Extracted from the Managers' Review in the 1985 Annual Report just published. "While the United States continues to provide many attractive opportunities, significant additions have been made to exposure to the United Kingdom oil industry now benefiting from the opportunities for major reserve growth provided by the North Sea and the onshore basins of the United Kingdom and France"

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Holiday insurance that fails

Accidents abroad - such as the tragic coach crash at Asis in France on Wednesday - have become an all-too-common risk for holidaymakers. The conventional wisdom is that when booking a holiday, take out holiday insurance at the same time.

Holiday insurance these days is usually a package which caters for a pre-selected range of contingencies at a fixed premium. The alternative - selected policies where you choose the level of cover you want - is available but expensive.

Unfortunately, package policies generally provide low levels of cover for personal injuries suffered abroad. The standard is to provide for a lump sum between £5,000 and £25,000 in the event of loss of eye or limb or permanent total disablement.

This potentially has two adverse consequences; if you are injured but your injuries do not come within one of the specified pigeon holes - you are not eligible for the lump sum payment - no matter how serious your injuries might otherwise be.

Secondly, even if falling within one of the categories, the lump sum - £5,000-£25,000 - is

Litigation is fraught with difficulties

generally far less compensation than a court would order.

The fallback is inevitably litigation but this is hedged with problems; in the past, tour operators have argued that they only put package holidays together - they are not responsible for accidents caused by third parties - such as hotels or transporters - whose activities may lead to injuries. This assertion is invariably contained in a standard exclusion clause hidden in the small print of the holiday brochure.

The upshot is that those not covered or who are inadequately covered by insurance have to embark upon long distance litigation abroad - against the particular hotelier or transport agent, a hazardous and long term enterprise.

The cumbersome procedures characterising personal injury litigation have come in for much criticism recently - from within and outside the legal profession.

Cover for physical injuries is low on tour operators' insurance priorities; cancellation and medical expenses account for the bulk of your premium. Perhaps it is time that tour operators, insurers and the Association of British Travel Agents had a rethink.

Laurence Lever

Gift Express PLC is hoping to raise £1.2 million under the Business Expansion Scheme to finance a national consumer service for sending small gifts.

The idea is that the service should be available from a wide range of retail outlets, and will enable pre-selected gifts, mainly in the £10 to £15 price range, to be chosen from samples and catalogues for immediate despatch from a central warehouse. They would be gift-wrapped and carry a personal message. There will be a premium delivery service for those who leave it until the last minute.

The aim is to introduce Gift Express progressively, starting in the autumn of 1985. It is expected to reach full national distribution two years later.

With considerable competition in this field and the high cost of advertising, this could prove to be one of the more risky BES schemes. Minimum investment is £500. Full details investment from Paceman Fund Management Ltd, 24 Weymouth Street, London W1N 3FA. Tel: (01) 580 4036.

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For a copy of the Alpha 4 Memorandum, on the basis of which alone applications can be made, contact Robert Manikin on 01-806 8811 or return the coupon to: Laurence, Priest & Co., Basilston House, 7/11 Moorgate, London EC2R 6AH.

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FAMILY MONEY/2

New schemes set puzzle for savers

Keep it simple is not a bad investment philosophy, but the trend, sadly, seems to be in the other direction with an increasing number of financial institutions offering complex packages that defy analysis.

Two new schemes offer "hybrid" mixes designed, it is true, to give investors who might not otherwise think of unit-linked investments, an opportunity to protect their capital without risking too much. But they are still messy investments. The first is from Boyton Financial Services, and is a mix of a building society high interest account and a unit-linked investment through General Portfolio Ltd, where funds are managed by the stockbroker, Edinboro Trust, which does well with the Framlington unit trusts.

The Premium Account is aimed at investors with £25,000 or more. The building society element is currently showing a return of 13 per cent net of basic rate tax (although this could go down) and the unit-linked part offers a choice of General Portfolio funds. The initial 5 per cent spread between bid and offer price of units has been widened out with a 5 per cent bonus allocation, though there are penalties of 4 per cent diminishing to 1 per cent if you sell within the first five years.

The second scheme, even more complex, comes from New Direction Finance, which offers a choice of guaranteed, a building society investment and unit trusts. The guaranteed bonds are underwritten by Credit and Commerce Life, the Abbey National takes in the building society element, and you can choose from two Allan Hume unit trusts.

What either of these schemes has over the do-it-yourself approach is difficult to see (except for the bonus allocation on the Boyton scheme). But presumably the promoters believe there is a market

among the terminally lazy for this kind of package. Details from Boyton Financial Services. Tel: 0787 61919; New Direction Finance. Tel: 0727 36361.

Free advice on unit trusts

Choosing a unit trust is almost as difficult as picking shares with more than 750 trusts on offer. Hence the growth of unit trust advisory services. Most of these services charge an annual management fee of 0.5 per cent to 1.5 per cent - usually with a minimum flat charge of around £250 to £100 a year.

If you do not feel like forking out this sort of money when you know the adviser is already receiving up to 3 per cent or more commission on purchases made on your behalf, you could try Flexible Investment Planning which makes no charge. Although it makes recommendations, FIP allows you to make your own selections. It is a member of NASDIM, the National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers.

Mr Shaun Dalton, managing director of FIP, said: "As our company the implies, flexibility is the keynote of our operation. We believe it is a vital part of our service that clients should be able to ensure their portfolios earn the maximum return. To do so requires regular performance analysis."

FIP produce no statistics on its investment performance in this area. But since unit trust advisers generally do not turn in a performance much better than an informed amateur, you could do worse than give FIP a whirl.

Details from Flexible Investment Planning, Freeport, Liraston, Manchester M31 2HX. Tel: 061 748 1554 (reverse the charges).

Offshore help

If you need an offshore stockbroker, you will now find an office of the London



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convention scheme, looks just the ticket for the cautious who prefer their money in a building society.

By investing in a building society through Legal & General you should be able to double the cash sum accumulated at retirement age, compared with the direct investment route.

Part of this is because the net cost after tax relief is reduced, and part is through the enhanced return L & G is able to obtain on the building society investment.

The only drawback the pension route has over direct investment, is that your money is locked up until retirement age. You cannot withdraw it before then. But this seems a small price to pay for potentially doubling your money.

Details from Legal & General, Temple Court, Queen Victoria Street, London EC4N 4TP.

Student bait

The annual drive to recruit the new crop of students as bank customers starts earlier every year. Lloyds Bank is not letting the grass grow under its feet, and is first in the field with its student package.

The bank is offering new account holders an £8 credit when they deposit their first grant cheque with a Lloyds branch, a cheque book and cashpoint card which is issued as soon as the account is opened, giving the holder instant access to cash from any of Lloyds' 1,600 machines.

Lloyds says: "Students can normally obtain a cheque guarantee card when they pay in their grant cheques". Free banking for those who keep their account in credit is a standard facility, and Lloyds now offers free banking to students who are overdrawn up to £200 - provided it is by prior arrangement.

Overdrafts are charged at the concessionary rate of 1 per cent over the bank's base rate - compared with the normal 3 to 5 per cent over base paid by those who have a proper income.

As an "extra", Lloyds is offering loans to student parents up to £2,000 a year for each year of study subject to a maximum of £6,000. There is a capital repayment

"holiday" of up to five years also available, and a "concessionary" rate of interest.

Complaints scheme

If you are an Abbey Life policyholder and have a complaint which has not been dealt with satisfactorily by the company, you can refer your grouse to the Insurance Ombudsman. Abbey Life has joined the scheme.

The Ombudsman's judgments are binding on the insurance company, but the policyholder can reject his adjudications and go to court in the normal way if he does not like the Ombudsman's decision. Most large insurance companies belong to the scheme, and you can only have your complaint referred to the Ombudsman if your company is a member. There is no charge. Details from the Insurance Ombudsman's Bureau, 31 Southampton Row, WC1B 5HJ. Tel: (01) 242 8613.

Samurai bonds

The Japanese bond market is not an easy market for the private investor to enter as minimum investment starts at £50,000. Like all bond markets, the time to buy is when you feel interest rates have peaked and are ready to decline, at which time the capital value of bonds will rise to reflect lower interest rates.

Since American interest rates affect rates worldwide - the general feeling is that US rates will have to come down sooner rather than later - now might well be the time to buy into the Japanese market. But how?

Fund manager Fidelity has come up with an unusual fund - the Fidelity Far East Income Trust. The portfolio will consist of bonds, convertible, and high-yielding equities, and will therefore offer far more stability than normally associated with investment in the Far East, as well as providing a yield of around 4.75 per cent - very high for investment in this region," says Fidelity.

The initial portfolio split is expected to be: Japan 75 per cent, Hong Kong 15 per cent, other Far East securities 10 per cent. In Japan investment will be Samurai

(Government) bonds, Euroyen bonds and convertibles. Fidelity says that over the past 10 years the Japanese bond market has produced a return of more than 20 per cent a year for UK investors.

Fidelity funds generally have performed well and this could be a good one to go for if you want an investment in the Far East which is not so volatile as a pure equity fund. Minimum investment is £500. Full details from Fidelity International, 25 Lovat Lane, London EC3R 8LL. Tel: (01) 283 9911.

Bonds shunned

Since unit trusts are now more tax efficient than insurance company unit-linked bonds, insurers have been hastily launching their own unit trusts. Imperial Life Assurance is the latest to come out with a range of funds. The first, the Laurentian Growth Trust is launched this weekend. The Laurentian is aimed at investors wanting longer term capital growth, and will be investing in equities, primarily in the UK.

As a guide to how the new trust might perform, Imperial's UK Equity fund is the top performer over the five years to April 1, 1985, and the Laurentian trust will be managed by the same investment team.

The minimum investment is £500. Details from Imperial Life Assurance Company of Canada, Imperial Life House, London Road, Guildford, Surrey, Tel: 0483 571255.

Risk label

It is not often that an investment product comes along labelled as a high risk, speculative investment. But that is what City of Edinburgh Life has called its latest brainchild. The "Risk & Reward" fund is billed as being "not suitable for widows and orphans" and is "designed for the sophisticated investor who is familiar with the world of finance, and who can afford to take a higher risk in the expectation of a potentially higher reward".

The investment is an insurance bond, from City of Edinburgh Life, with assets managed by Stanecastle Assets, an Edinburgh-based investment management company.

Penalties to speed VAT payments

Four out of 10 traders do not pay their VAT on time, and the Customs and Excise aims to do something to penalize the late payers. The 1985 Finance Bill, now on its way through Parliament, provides for a range of civil penalties for VAT offences. At the moment, the Customs and Excise has to prosecute VAT defaulters through the criminal courts.

Binder Hamlyn, the accountant, says: "With repeated late payments, penalties will start at 5 per cent of the tax due. For each further VAT accounting period during which the taxpayer defaults, the penalty can rise in 5 per cent steps to a maximum of 30 per cent."

Similar penalties will be applied to the new offence of serious misdeclaration. This covers those who repeatedly under estimate their VAT bills, or whose declarations are more than 30 per cent under the true amount.

"An automatic charge of 30 per cent of the tax underpaid will be levied in these cases, unless the taxpayer can convince the Customs, or a VAT appeal tribunal, that the misdeclaration was not deliberate".

Copies of the Binder Hamlyn briefing are available free from 8 St. Bride Street, London, EC4A 4DA. There is also a more detailed brief dealing specifically with the Finance Bill proposals for VAT.

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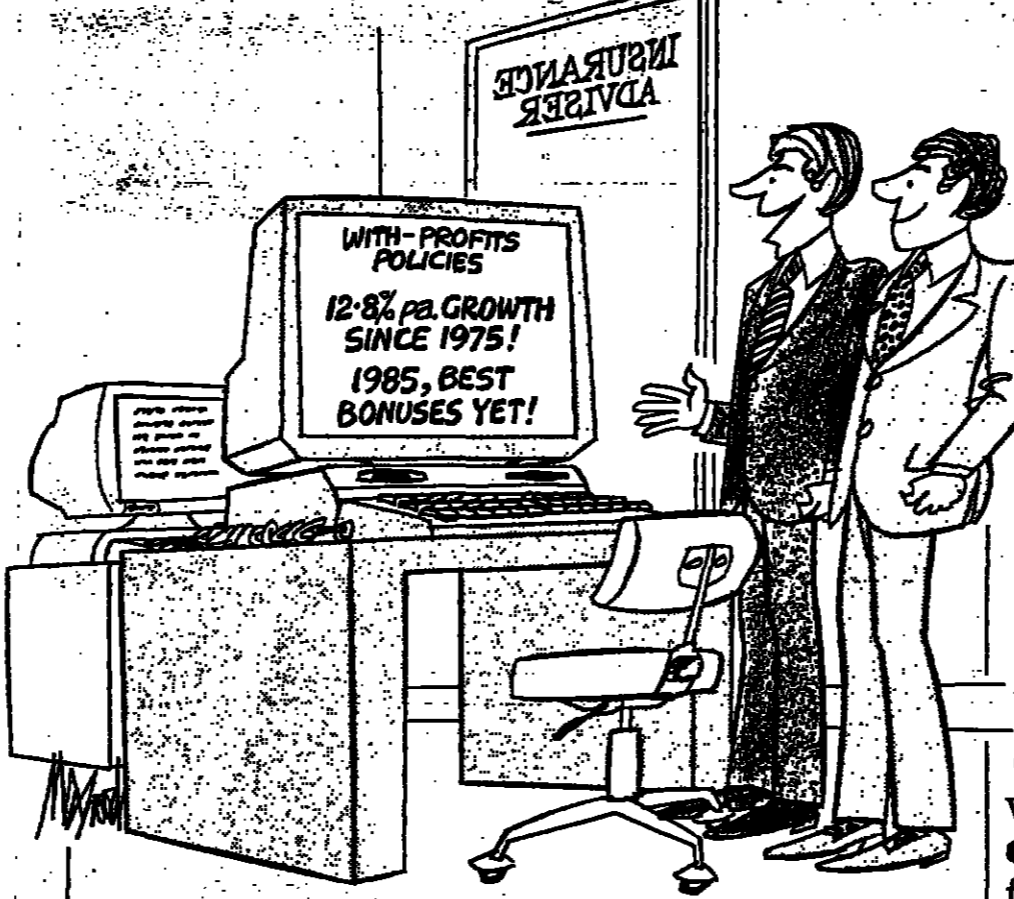
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CTT: You need a special scheme

The explosion in property prices over the past 15 years has left many people in possession of valuable flats or houses which will be liable to punitive rates of capital transfer tax.

While there is a booming market in off-the-peg CTT mitigation schemes, such as inheritance trusts and discounted gift schemes, designed for cash sums, there is no equivalent scheme for property. For the owner of a highly priced home with no liquid assets there are no simple solutions.

One method of reducing the property's value for tax purposes is simply to give part of it away to your children. A

High degree of trust in children

husband and wife jointly owning a house is each entitled to give away £3,000 a year free of CTT, and up to a further £67,000 (1985-86) in any 10-year period.

So, for example, on a house worth £200,000 a couple might decide to give £50,000 each, half the value of the individual share, to their children, leaving property worth £100,000 within the estate. Assuming they live at least a further 10 years, and taking into account the automatic CTT exemption at today's rates of £67,000 at death, the tax liability of the estate will be £10,450.

This is made up of £22,000 taxed at 30 per cent, and the next £11,000 at 35 per cent, making up the full £100,000.

Had they given none of their property away the £200,000 estate would have been liable to a tax charge of £105,300. Of course, by the time they die both the value of the £100,000 investment in the house and the CTT thresholds will be higher.

The trouble with this method is that it requires a high degree of trust in your children, and it is perhaps a reflection of British family life that few parents appear to have that sort of trust.

At any rate, most financial advisers say that few of their clients choose this route. Whenever you give part of the property to your offspring they become part-owners and therefore could be entitled to sell the property whenever they want although they would clearly have difficulty doing so with parents in occupation.

There are further complications. If the home is sold when the parents die the children receive no capital gains tax exemption on their share of the proceeds, since it is not their primary residence. However, since the maximum rate of CGT is 30 per cent, and CGT starts at 30 per cent and rises to 60 per cent on sums over £29,000 this may be preferable.

There are also complicated rules for valuing properties, which mean that the taxman may assess your estate as having fallen in value by far less than the actual amount you have given away. This will reduce your avoidance of CGT.

The whole process is hardly worth the aggravation, unless you are in a happy position

of owning a huge country estate, said Simon Gray, of Smith and Williamson Securities.

David Beech, of the accountants Robson Rhodes, said: "These gifts are highly artificial arrangements. For example, if you make over part of your property as a gift 'for life' it remains as part of your estate for tax purposes. If you give it with a temporary lease - say 50 years, by which time you will have died - it is counted as being outside your estate. Because of these artificialities the Revenue reacts differently to each case. You never quite know how it will treat any particular arrangement."

Wife escapes rent payments

So what other options are open to the hard-pressed homeowner? Curiously, the best solution cannot be put into effect until you are actually dead.

This method uses the legal right of beneficiaries to alter the terms of a will within two years of the testator's death by deed of family arrangement. A husband, for example, dies leaving his half of the property to his wife, thus avoiding any CTT charge. By deed of family arrangement, the wife can alter this legacy in favour of her children.

Although this may give rise to a CTT charge if she gives more than £67,000, it keeps down the amount of property in her own estate. So when she

dies the tax paid on her share of the property is likely to be several times less than if she had held on to her husband's share.

One advantage of this is that the wife is automatically considered a dependant relative, and does not have to pay rent on the portion of the property she has given away.

But the surviving spouse, as is often the case, may want to move to a smaller home after the partner's death. In this case the will can be altered, putting the testator's share of the sale proceeds into a discretionary trust as in any ordinary inheritance trust scheme. The money will eventually go to the children free of tax, but the surviving husband or wife retains control of it, and receives a modest income until death.

Here again, however, there are pitfalls. The will can only be altered if the couple jointly own their property as "tenants in common". If they had owned it as "joint tenants" the survivor automatically inherited it all regardless of what the will says.

"As far as property is concerned," says Mr Gray, "you cannot produce a simple CTT avoidance scheme you could sell in W H Smiths, because it will cause horrible problems we considered doing one but decided against."

"Fortunately, though, the legal fees for making any of these arrangements are now relatively small, and by no means out of the average person's reach".

Richard Thomson

Dilemma on jobs training



Young trainee: The Government gets tough

The Government's social security review is due next week. But there have been many so-called leaks about the likely outcome of the review none of which has been substantiated.

Speculation over one such review, that of *Benefits for Children and Young People*, is likely to prove more accurate. The expectation is that changes to social security benefits are unlikely to help unemployed young people and may even hurt their interests. One need look only as far as the Chancellor's Budget statement, and subsequent statements by the Secretary of State for Employment, and the Prime Minister, in order to guess which way the wind of change is blowing.

The Chancellor announced that he intends to extend the Youth Training Scheme (YTS) in April 1986. The scheme has traditionally been operated on a purely voluntary basis - voluntary both for employers and potential employees, or trainees.

At the moment YTS is available to all 16-year-olds - provided they have not been employed for more than 39 weeks - and lasts one year. Under present rules, if a youngster persistently refuses the offer of a YTS place, careers officers are supposed to inform the DHSS, which can then stop paying full benefits.

A place on the YTS is classed as "approved training" and rejection by young unemployed people is considered "unreasonable refusal to work". This carries a penalty of total withdrawal of unemployment benefit and a six-week reduction of supplementary benefit by 40 per cent.

Nigel Lawson now intends to extend YTS to a two-year course for 16-year-olds and one-year course for 17-year-olds. For these groups, he argues, "unemployment will no longer be an option - sentiments echoed by the Prime Minister.

When asked whether YTS participation would in future be compulsory, the Secretary of State for Employment, Tom King, said it would continue to run on a purely voluntary basis.

However - and here lies the clue to the possible outcome of

the young people's review - last year the Government published a White Paper, *Training for Jobs*. This included a paragraph saying: "Participation in the (YTS) is voluntary for employers and young people and will remain so."

But the same paragraph also said there will be a review of individual entitlement of young people to supplementary benefit, "taking into account the extent to which they have the guarantee of a place under the scheme, and therefore need not be unemployed".

The Government would argue that, under the new extension, all youngsters have the opportunity of undergoing the training for future employment. So why complain? It's all very well to throw money into YTS in an attempt to solve the unemployment problem, but is the scheme really the appropriate target?

Youngsters are now faced with the prospect of no benefits and a new form of "national service" which reaps a mere £25 per week.

Last year some 180,000 young people dropped out of YTS early, and more than one-third did not have jobs to go to. During the same period, about 600,000 refused places on the scheme.

Mr King and his colleagues assure us that participation in YTS is still purely voluntary, but there are several thousands of school children who would be quick to point out that the Oxford Dictionary definition of the word does not include the notion of financial coercion.

Misplaced trusts?

The enthusiasm with which reputable insurance companies promote the somewhat doubtful "inheritance trust" schemes knows no bounds. Large commissions are paid to those who introduce new business.

Latest in the field is Royal Life, with a single premium unit-linked investment "which can be used in capital transfer tax planning", says Royal.

The plan makes use of the questionable "discounted gift scheme", and has received agreement from the Capital Taxes Office as to the basis of calculating the discounted values "and therefore has the same tacit approval as other schemes currently available in the market", says Royal.

But the fact remains that all inheritance trust schemes have a permanent question mark hanging over them, since they are all attackable by the Revenue under existing legislation. The taxman has simply chosen not to move up to now.

But a useful insight into Revenue thinking on inheritance trusts and other forms of tax avoidance was revealed

recently. When questioned about why no moves have been made to challenge inheritance trusts, in spite of the hundreds, if not thousands, of millions of pounds which have been invested in these schemes, a senior Revenue official said: "As yet, not many people who have made use of these schemes have died, and the loss of Revenue is currently small".

This produces the grisly prospect of those beneficiaries whose parents die fairly soon escaping the tax net, with those who live until the loss of Revenue becomes substantial (as it will) being caught for substantial sums of capital transfer tax.

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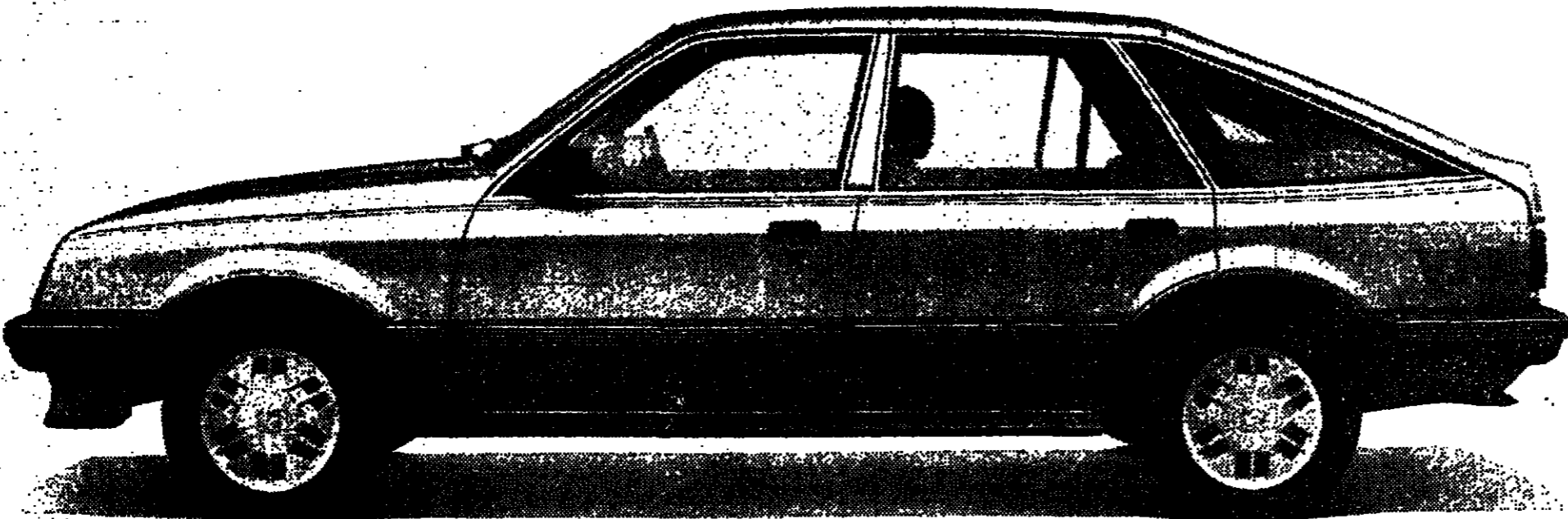


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FAMILY MONEY 1/4

Mortgage queues are back so it pays prospective buyers to shop around House hunters hit by loans squeeze

BORROWING



Putting the roof of a desirable residence over your head is not quite as easy as it has been for a fairly long time

Holiday cash from a building society

Money may be getting short at some building societies, but Bristol & West is not one of them. Yesterday it launched a personal loan scheme aimed at encouraging its existing homebuyers to borrow more - not for home improvements but for cars, holidays and the like.

The society says: "The scheme breaks new ground for building societies, by targeting its appeal specifically to home owners wishing to raise funds for any consumer expenditure not related to house purchase or improvement. In doing so, it shows the room for initiative which is open to building societies even under current legislation."

Houseowners have been using home improvement money for these purposes for several years but this is the first time a society has gone out to lend specifically on consumer durables.

However, it is not the bargain it first seems. Borrowers from Bristol & West's personal loan scheme will pay a 3 per cent premium over the society's normal lending rate of 13.75 per cent, bringing the cost of this borrowing up to 16.75 per cent. And, since it is not being used for an eligible purpose, the loan does not qualify for tax relief.

However, even at 16.75 per cent it is cheaper than bank personal loans, and repayments can be spread over periods from two years up to any period within the unexpired term of the mortgage. This could be ideal for parents wanting to fund school fees through borrowings, and spread the repayments over 20 years or more.

The maximum loan is £30,000, with a minimum of £1,000, and the personal loan plus the existing house purchase mortgage must not exceed 75 per cent of the property's valuation. Loans are automatically covered by life insurance. Bristol & West says "at no extra cost," though the customer is paying for this in the higher interest charge.

There are no arrangement or valuation fees, nor are there any penalties for early repayment. So if you move house and want to repay the loan out of profits there will be no interest penalty.

Bristol & West's existing borrowers, perhaps feeling the pinch of high interest rates, could be forgiven for thinking that Bristol & West would do better to reduce its rates in order to get rid of its money, rather than introduce personal loan schemes.

With high differentials, Bristol & West is having some difficulty getting its money lent. The reason given for the introduction of the new personal loan scheme is that "we want to provide a new service for existing customers at competitive rates, and at the same time develop a profitable and safe outlet for the society's funds not immediately required for house purchase loans," commented Mr Linden.

Lorna Bourke

Mortgage money is becoming tighter as the seasonal demand for loans - late developing this year because of bad weather - nears its peak, at a time when societies are having difficulty attracting enough funds.

Early estimates from the Building Societies Association reveal that this month the societies will take in around £550 million. But they need around £800 million to meet current mortgage demand without dipping into liquidity.

"Money is definitely more difficult to come by. It sees to be the larger societies which are tight on funds", commented Mark Beerts, of Blay's Mortgage Tables, which monitors loan availability at all societies.

He says: "The Alliance is now lending only to existing members, or agents and brokers through which they have traditionally done business. Leeds Permanent has added a couple of weeks to its waiting list."

The situation does, however, differ widely, with demand strongest in London and the South-East.

"Remortgages are more difficult to come by - particularly among the larger societies, where they have been discontinued. This is always one of the first things to go when money is short", says Mr Beerts.

"There are funds available - it is just a question of looking for them. Some of the smaller building societies have plenty of money to lend - they generally seem to be better off for funds".

Individual societies confirm that demand for home loans is running high. Jim Murgatroyd, of the Halifax, says: "We are lending strongly at the moment, and demand is picking up after a slow start because of the bad weather." He points out that weather earlier in the year put off prospective home buyers who do not like trailing around looking at properties in the rain.

"But there are regional variations and loan availability is a little patchy", he says. The Halifax is not, however, expecting any fall-off in demand. "I anticipate that the market will keep going now until the summer holidays."

Strong demand is pushing up house prices - particularly in London and the South-East where in some areas like central London prices are escalating at the rate of 17 per cent or more a year. "But in regions like the North, the rise is only 4-5 per cent", says Mr Murgatroyd.

Many building society men seem to think that demand will remain strong this year. House owners have deferred making a move in the recent past, but now pent-up demand is breaking through as people are forced

to move through increase in family size and the like.

"There is quite noticeable evidence that high interest rates do not seem to be acting as a damper on mortgage demand", says Mr Murgatroyd. And this view is borne out by the Nationwide.

"Neither the fact that interest rates are high, nor the fact that people are having to wait, seems to put off buyers", says Nick Hopkins.

"Inevitably queues are developing, though it is not so much a question of queues - more that loans are taking time in the pipeline."

Some societies losing out to the banks

Both the Nationwide and Woolwich report queues. Among the major societies, they are the only ones not to charge higher rates for larger loans. David Blake, of the Woolwich, says: "There is a waiting list of around six weeks on average, but we don't anticipate this to be a problem, and we expect it to disappear in the next two or three months."

Demand at the Woolwich is strong and estate agents say that properties are becoming more difficult to find. The Woolwich is banking on this to reduce demand over the summer months.

At the moment the Woolwich, in common with other societies, is losing lending business to the banks, as people are frequently not prepared to wait. But Mr Blake does not see this as a major long-term problem. "I think people are still a little wary of the banks after they pulled out of the market last time round", he says.

The high street banks are still cheaper to borrow. The differential between the banks' rates and those charged by the building societies is greater than it would appear, since the banks quote a true APR for their home loans, while the societies do not.

In addition, with the exception of Barclays, the banks do not charge differential rates for larger loans. For someone borrowing £40,000 or £50,000 this can make a big difference in terms of monthly payments.

The Abbey National, Leeds Permanent and the Alliance, for example, all charge 14.75 per cent for loans of this size compared with 13.5 at NatWest and the Midland, and 13.25 at Lloyds.

Lloyds is having great success with its 0.5 per cent discount schemes open to borrowers whose loans are approved

differentials - in competition with the banks. But the banks seem to be able to cope with demand, and only Barclays is restricting loans to customers of at least six months standing.

"We have seen an increase in demand but we have no queues", says the NatWest, which is hoping that home loans will lure new customers.

So for would-be homebuyers the message must be to try your high street bank first, but if a loan is not forthcoming, shop around among the societies - possibly some of the smaller ones.

Copies of Blay's Mortgage Tables are available by subscription of £70 a year for 12 issues, from Blay's Guides, Churchfield Road, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 9EW. Tel: 0753 884415.

Lorna Bourke

REPAYMENT MORTGAGE HOME LOAN COSTS

Society	up to £15,000		£15,000-£20,000		£20,000-£25,000		£25,000-£30,000		£30,000-£35,000		£35,000-£40,000		£40,000-£45,000		£45,000-£50,000		Over £50,000	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Abbey National	14.0	14.25	14.25	14.50	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75
Alliance	13.75	13.75	14.25	14.25	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75
Anglia	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
IBradford and Bingley	14.0	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25
Britannia	13.75	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25	14.25
Cheltenham & Glos	14.0	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
Goldloan	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
Halifax	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.25	14.5	14.5	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75	14.75
Leeds Permanent	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0
Leicester	13.75	13.75	14.25	14.25	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
NatWest	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5	14.5
Nationwide	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875
Woolwich	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875	13.875
Barclays	13.25	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75	13.75
Lloyds	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25
Midland	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5
National Westminster	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05	13.05

*Based on latest information available at time of going to press. Compiled by Susan Froud.

MONTHLY REPAYMENTS ON A NEW 25 YEAR REPAYMENT LOAN

Mortgage Rate %	Net of Basic Rate Tax Relief									Gross
	£1,000	£10,000	£15,000	£20,000	£25,000	£30,000	£40,000	£50,000	£60,000	
13.25	8.66	86.80	129.90	173.20	216.50	259.80	462.40	578.00	693.60	
13.5	8.80	88.00	132.00	176.00	220.00	263.00	470.00	587.50	705.00	
13.75	8.90	89.00	133.50	178.00	222.50	267.00	477.80	594.00	712.80	
14.0	9.04	90.40	135.60	180.80	226.00	271.20	485.20	606.50	727.80	
14.25	9.15	91.50	137.25	183.00	228.75	274.50	492.80	616.00	739.20	
14.5	9.29	92.90	139.35	185.80	232.25	278.25	500.40	625.50	750.60	
14.75	9.40	94.00	141.00	188.00	235.00	282.00	508.00	635.00	762.00	
15.0	9.54	95.40	143.10	190.80	238.50	286.20	516.00	645.00	774.00	

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CRICKET: BOTHAM'S REVERSE SHOT NOT WORTHY OF A PRODIGIOUS TALENT

Much sweeping criticism

By John Woodcock Cricket Correspondent



Fowler: few runs

Garling: overshadowed

As the England and Australian sides moved down from Manchester to Birmingham yesterday, in readiness for the second of the three Test cricket one-day internationals to be played at Edgbaston today, there was much discussion concerning Brian Statham's choice of the man of the match on Thursday. Was it right that he should have nominated Ian Botham, who had mastered an otherwise excellent performance by throwing away his wicket?

Botham, of course, is a law unto himself. We have come to accept that, and to make allowances for it. He still has a prodigious talent, as was evident from the way he battled and fielded at Old Trafford. But this does not entitle him to trifle with England's fortunes.

Whether Hobbs ever did, of Sutcliffe or Jessop. It is a stroke patented in the late sixties by the Pakistani, Mushtaq Mohammad, and it is used now albeit rarely, in run chases.

powerful and orthodox strokes in his repertoire. Yesterday Peter May as chairman of the selectors made it clear to both Botham and Gatting that he had no wish to see the stroke in use again this summer, not when England are playing Australia anyway. Statham might have done better to make the same point by choosing Lawson, Border or Matthews of the winning Australian side for Thursday's individual prize.

To take the one-day series to the last match - at Lord's on Monday - England must now win today. Fowler is making such a start from 15 innings, of different kinds is only 17 - that he might be better replaced by Robinson. The side could do with a sticer at the start. It is also important to get Gatting out of Botham's shadow. That he was dropped to No 6 at Old Trafford, following his triumphs in India at No 3, seemed like bad psychology.

Lan Botham by the way, missed yesterday's practice, to rest the little finger of his left hand which he dislocated while fielding on Thursday but he will be fit to play

Smith brothers give Hampshire victory

By Richard Streeton

Phase three took Hampshire towards their goal in a blaze of stroke-making. The Smith brothers added 75 in 14 overs against the first two batsmen before the final over was signalled. In retrospect, these runs were the decisive thrust. They left Hampshire needing 127 in the last hour.

Three wickets fell, though before the thrilling climax. Chris Smith, who helped his brother add 161 in 37 overs, was leg-before; Marshall clipped a catch to square leg; and James was held at mid-on.

immediately afterward as Hadlee returned to remove Whittaker and Butcher's excellent stint ended the next over as he went back and was bowled by one from Hemmings which did turn.

Table with 2 columns: Batsman, Runs, Wickets. Includes names like G. Smith, R. Smith, J. Marshall, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Bowler, Overs, Runs, Wickets. Includes names like G. Smith, R. Smith, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Batsman, Runs, Wickets. Includes names like P. Boucher, J. Hemmings, etc.

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Slipshod Yorkshire Lynch stranglehold

By Marcus Williams

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire (Rus) drew with Somerset (4). The match between Yorkshire and Somerset was drawn in the Leeds sunshine yesterday evening, the task of scoring 350 in four and a quarter hours proving too much for a depleted Somerset side and dropped catches reducing Yorkshire's chances on a pitch still playing easily.

Middlesex, unable to convert their initial supremacy over Surrey into victory, surrendered their lead of the Britannia Assurance Championship table. On a worn pitch at the Oval, Surrey made a marvellous recovery, finishing on 402 for six and consigning Middlesex to yearn for the return of Edmonds.

Lynch equalled best Championship table. Lynch equalled his best score, 144 against Leicestershire last year. He was partnered in a seventh wicket stand of 180 by Richards, which followed an exhilarating stand of 149 at more than four an over against Leicestershire last year.

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Good day: Brian Barnes missed this putt yesterday but did score a hole in one (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Barnes's challenge pleasant surprise

By Mitchell Platt

Brian Barnes emerged from the backwaters with the assistance of a hole in one on the way to a second round of 69 in the Four Stars National Pro-Celebrity tournament at Moor Park yesterday.

leader, Noel Ratcliffe, of Australia. He insisted that it is not beyond his reach. Barnes explained: "I won the Northern Open on the Scottish circuit in May. I was playing well but two weeks ago I fell over while fishing and I badly sprained my right hand. I'm swinging well again but winning in golf requires what we know in the trade as bottle and I need to find out if I've still got it."

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Schlapphaff picks himself up for opportunist win

By John Wilcockson

Joachim Schlapphaff, a 23-year-old professional from Berlin, picked himself up from a crash in yesterday's fifth stage of the Milk Race before going on to win a sprint victory in Leicester. It was an opportunist win by the West German, but the chief beneficiary of a 12-man break that finished half a minute before the mainfield was

was eventually caught by a group of 11 riders who counter-attacked at Colby, 26 miles from the end of the 103.5-mile stage. Prominent in this group were Paul Curran and Tommaso Tassinari, the British amateur. Curran retained his leadership in the Mountains Grand Prix and moved up to ninth place overall, two minutes 39 seconds behind Kirsipuu.

There were repeated attacks as soon as the race left the shelter of Bury St Edmunds' historic streets with the yellow jersey holder twice having to contribute to strengthening chances. During this phase of action across the Suffolk marshes, a dozen riders fell, including Schlapphaff. None was seriously hurt, but it took them 15 miles of chasing before they regained the pack at Blunham.

It was in this village that a remarkable solo break was begun by Jan Jorgensen, from Copenhagen, who reformed clear of the chasers until 12 miles from the finish. The Dane had a maximum lead of almost five minutes, which made him the temporary race leader. He

It is a brave sight, to see the Milk Race go past, the whispering procession of 70 or more silver-spoked bicycles, each one weighing no more than a pack of

marshals and vans full of bicycle repairs listening to the race intercom ("Milksman to Milk Two, do you read me?") is to become aware that race racing is an intricate technical game performed with spectacular modern machinery.

The day began with a wild, quantic stage from a lone Dane, Lars Jensen, a frantic charge by the blond-haired, teeth-gritting rider who shot two minutes clear. The rest of the bunch simply ignored him, half-gone with a head-ringing chain break comes off. A rider put more than eight minutes between himself and the field at one stage, and finished four minutes behind everyone else.

It is not the mental strain of leading that is so disastrous. It is a matter of physics. On a perfectly still day, the man in front does 30 per cent more work than the man tucked in behind. It is not the man in the lead who is the one to be feared, it is the man who would be perfectly happy for it to fall, for some tactical reason that affects themselves or their team. They wait at the back, hitching a ride with the lead riders, waiting for the break to be pulled back by the pursuing pack.

The Milk Race is a matter of wheels within wheels within wheels. To win a stage is glory enough for some riders, but for others their sights on winning the entire race. So deals can be struck: I'll let you see the stage, and I'll be second and take over the yellow jersey as race leader.

The men at the back do not win, but losing - though not always. The men at the back of the group might be biding their time, or they might be doing a favour for their colleagues. Stage racing is a game of bluff and counter-bluff, of fate and disguised intention, of alliance and betrayal. It has a bizarre logic of its own. In a game where all things are oaken, the finest chess players maintain their edge.

ROAD RACING, especially stage racing such as this, is a matter of shifting alliances and alliances. The teams have a formal alliance, but the shared aims of the moment will force a change of allegiance.

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Intricacies abound in stage racing

Simon Barnes

It is a brave sight, to see the Milk Race go past, the whispering procession of 70 or more silver-spoked bicycles, each one weighing no more than a pack of

marshals and vans full of bicycle repairs listening to the race intercom ("Milksman to Milk Two, do you read me?") is to become aware that race racing is an intricate technical game performed with spectacular modern machinery.

The day began with a wild, quantic stage from a lone Dane, Lars Jensen, a frantic charge by the blond-haired, teeth-gritting rider who shot two minutes clear. The rest of the bunch simply ignored him, half-gone with a head-ringing chain break comes off. A rider put more than eight minutes between himself and the field at one stage, and finished four minutes behind everyone else.

It is not the mental strain of leading that is so disastrous. It is a matter of physics. On a perfectly still day, the man in front does 30 per cent more work than the man tucked in behind. It is not the man in the lead who is the one to be feared, it is the man who would be perfectly happy for it to fall, for some tactical reason that affects themselves or their team. They wait at the back, hitching a ride with the lead riders, waiting for the break to be pulled back by the pursuing pack.

The Milk Race is a matter of wheels within wheels within wheels. To win a stage is glory enough for some riders, but for others their sights on winning the entire race. So deals can be struck: I'll let you see the stage, and I'll be second and take over the yellow jersey as race leader.

The men at the back do not win, but losing - though not always. The men at the back of the group might be biding their time, or they might be doing a favour for their colleagues. Stage racing is a game of bluff and counter-bluff, of fate and disguised intention, of alliance and betrayal. It has a bizarre logic of its own. In a game where all things are oaken, the finest chess players maintain their edge.

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Barnes's challenge pleasant surprise

By Mitchell Platt

Brian Barnes emerged from the backwaters with the assistance of a hole in one on the way to a second round of 69 in the Four Stars National Pro-Celebrity tournament at Moor Park yesterday.

leader, Noel Ratcliffe, of Australia. He insisted that it is not beyond his reach. Barnes explained: "I won the Northern Open on the Scottish circuit in May. I was playing well but two weeks ago I fell over while fishing and I badly sprained my right hand. I'm swinging well again but winning in golf requires what we know in the trade as bottle and I need to find out if I've still got it."

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FOOTBALL: FRANCIS WORRIED ABOUT SAFETY OF FAMILY

Confusion and fear in the England camp

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Mexico City

England had planned to come here and begin genuine preparations for the World Cup which starts in a year, exactly to the day. Instead they are walking around under a thick black cloud of depression, shame and confusion.

There is no firm guarantee that England's opening game in this tournament, which through a perverted twist of fate happens to be against Italy next Thursday, will take place. There has been no official decision yet, but there is a suspicion that the Italians might be forced by their own authorities to withdraw from the fixture. England's other games are against West Germany and Mexico.

The official version from the England party is that there are no doubts that the match will go ahead. What is more, they think it should. They feel that it offers an opportunity to build a bridge of peace.

The interest of the local populace will also have to be taken into consideration. Although their own Mexican favourites are not involved, all tickets have long since been sold and the Aztec Stadium, a huge modern theatre that will stage the World Cup final itself next summer, is expected to be

filled to its capacity of over 109,000 spectators.

Most, if not all, of the crowd will be Mexicans. Mercifully, there has been no sign yet in this sprawling capital city of any followers from either England or Italy and there is no reason to suspect that the game would be marred by any violent conduct on the terraces.

Three members of the England side have special reasons for hoping that the game is played, and played without bitterness. Francis, Hately and Wilkins all earn their weekly wages in a country that is now reported to be seething with anger and resentment over the tragedy in Brussels.

Francis, who was shocked when he saw the horrific pictures on television, has been informed by a couple of Italian journalists that he might face "a backlash" when he returns to Sampdoria within a fortnight. He is deeply concerned about the safety of his wife, son and parents-in-law, who are living in Genoa.

Choosing his words with particular care, he said that he hoped that the club's supporters as well as his friends would understand that "the players had nothing to do with the

tragedy". He confirmed that he plans to return to Sampdoria, and would prefer to be allowed to fulfill his contract there.

Wilkins has a more obvious and severe problem. His club, AC Milan, are to meet Juventus in the Italian Cup on June 12 and, since his club colleague, Hately, misses the game through suspension, he will be England's lone representative. AC Milan telephoned Wilkins on Thursday morning and ordered him to stay silent on the subject.

Hately is not so verbally restricted, and he, like the rest of the England squad, was stunned by the troubles during the European Cup final. "It's been going on for far too long", he said. "We, as players, feel as frustrated as everybody else, probably more so. We just feel so helpless when these idiotic louts carry on the way they do."

"I cannot understand why the English police have not followed the continental example. In Italy, in Spain and in West Germany, for instance, they take out their steel truncheons when anybody steps out of line. You don't see many people misbehaving over there. You think twice when you've been cracked over the head, don't you?"

BOWLS: BRYANT WINS TWICE IN OPENING DAY OF MASTERS

Defending champion shows his mettle

By Gordon Allan



Bryant bends to the task of defending his title. Souza looks on. Photograph: Ian Stewart

David Bryant, the defending champion, was the only player to win twice on the opening day of the Gateway Masters singles at Beach House Park, Worthing, yesterday. He beat George Souza 21-14 and Cecil Bransky 21-11. Bryant is therefore almost certain of his place in the semi-finals tomorrow. Today he plays Dennis Kasutratich, the Australian, who has already lost to Bransky. Bryant ran away from Souza and Bransky in the home stretch of their matches.

John Bell beat Tony Allcock 21-20 in the best match of the day. Both were in the England side who won the world fours championship at Aberdeen last year, and know each other's play inside out. Bell led throughout but Allcock made it 20-11, and Bell had to kill one end, at which Allcock lay siege, and bring off a perfectly-judged trail shot at the end to win.

Peter Belliss, the world champion, who was runner-up to Bryant last year, lost 21-15 to Allcock, and 21-14 to Ron Jones. He should have beaten Allcock 14-6, but the only shot he scored after that was a gift, when one of his woods was knocked on to the back by Allcock. Allcock won the last five ends, 2, 1, 4.

There were no ifs or buts about Belliss's match with Jones. Neither bowled well, but it was Belliss who was more obviously out of touch. He never mastered the rink in spite of having played Allcock on it. Jones scarcely comes up to Belliss's shoulder, so that the match was a case of the long and the short of it. The bowling was much the same either too long or too short, with few shots on the jack. There was little to be learnt from the game — except how difficult it can be, even for world-class players.

IN BRIEF

GOLF: Mark James and Stephen Bennett, winners on this year's European tour, are only on the bordering for places in the Bell's Ryder Cup match against the United States at the Belfry in September. Bennett, who won the Tuisian Open is ninth in the order of merit while James, winner of the CSI open tournament in France, is tenth. La Manga in Southern Spain has become the winter headquarters of the PGA European tour and the permanent site for the annual training school. These new arrangements have been made under the terms of a five-year agreement recently signed by the club and the tour. WOLLEBALLETT: England's men finished sixth in their qualifying pool of the European championships in Malmo, Sweden.

Walsh is out of Irish World Cup game

Republic of Ireland, with only three goals from their last nine games, had a setback yesterday when Micky Walsh was refused permission by his club, Torino, of Turin, to play in the 1985 World Cup qualifying match against Switzerland in Dublin tomorrow.

Walsh will be used, instead, as a substitute in a League match for Torino, who are already assured of the Portuguese championship.

The Republic's manager, Eoin Hand, who will announce his team today, said: "I think it is disgraceful that manager refuses the player a chance to take part in such an important World Cup tie, especially as his club have already won their league title." Such is the squeeze within Group Six, that the Republic could go to the top of the table at the moment, could top it if they beat the Swiss handsomely. This now looks unlikely, with the Republic's manager deciding to play Frank Stapleton as the lone forward. John Gavin and Mark Lawrenson have already pulled through injury, and Celtic goalkeeper, Pat Bonner, has gone down with a virus infection.

Brentford pull in the fans

Brentford, mabeaten in 13 games, are unchanged for today's Freight Rover Trophy final against Wigan Athletic at Wembley. There is however, a doubt concerning Terry Bullivant, one of their substitutes, who is a publican, but it is hoped he will be fit.

Brentford who have sold nearly 14,000 tickets, four times last season's average home gate, will stop selling at Griffin Park at 4.00pm this afternoon.

George Best returns to Wembley today, playing in a 30 minute curtain-raiser match before the Freight Rover Trophy Final. He joins Pat Jennings, his former Northern Ireland international colleague, as well as Graham Rix, of Arsenal and pop stars, Rod Stewart and Rick Wakeman, in an LBC Radio Celebrity XI.

They face an England all-star side including Bobby Charlton, Geoff Hurst and Peter Peters, who are 1986 World Cup winners, side, in a match in aid of the Bradford Fire disaster fund.

Athletics Slaney out to improve her image

From Pat Butcher, Eugene, Oregon

Mary Slaney's tarnished image will be restored to all health, at least in the eyes of the International Amateur Athletic Federation officials, if she fulfills her intention to break the world 5,000 metres record here in the Prefontaine Classic this evening. For this second meeting on the Mt. Hood circuit, Slaney is likely to suffer the same early-season fate as last week's inaugural meeting in San Jose, California, when there were insufficient spectators to fill the stadium for points to be allocated towards the Grand Prix finals in Rome on September 7.

Mrs Slaney could divert some of the attention from the omission. The former Miss Decker is having her first outdoor competition since her fatal collision with Zola Beud during the Olympic Games.

There has never been any question about Mrs Slaney's capacity to excite tempers by her front-running. And that is what she intends to do in front of her home crowd in Eugene, in the 1000m to 70-second race. That would deliver her to the finishing line in less than 14 minutes 40 seconds. Ingrid

Kristiansen's world record is 14min 58.9sec.

Mrs Slaney said yesterday that she considers herself in better condition than when she set a three-year record of 15min 08.26sec three years ago. "I am excited about running outdoors for the first time since the Olympics, and if I stay healthy there is no doubt I'll run fast. People haven't run a lot faster than I did three years ago. I've definitely got a few seconds to play with, and I have a very good chance of the world record if it is not windy."

Joachim Cruz is another adopted local who is having his first race since a disappointment, in this case his 800 metres defeat — his first since the inaugural world championship in Helsinki in 1983 — by Jim Ryun at Westwood two weeks ago. Cruz has been doing more preparation for 1,500 metres, which he runs today against Steve Scott, by 10m the Brazilian beat by 0.01sec in the mile at Westwood two weeks ago. Jack Becker and John Doherty run in the 5,000 metres

against last week's 3,000 metres victors, Doug Padilla and Mamie Gomez. With Sydney Marano also, this promises to be the fastest 5,000 metres in the world so far.

LOS ANGELES: Ed Moses, the 400 metres hurdles world record holder and Olympic champion in both 1976 and 1984, yesterday pulled out of next month's United States athletics championships because of an injury to his right knee (AFP reports).

Ted Turner, an American cable television and sports magnate, is seeking Soviet approval to stage "goodwill games" between Olympic years at sites alternating between the United States and Soviet Union, the Atlanta Journal reported on Thursday. Turner's cable and satellite station, WTBS, would have exclusive television rights to the competition, the newspaper said.

Belgrade (AFP) — Profits of between 328 million and 543 million dollars could be made if the Olympic Games were held here in 1992, city authorities have projected.

The greatest shame

The European Cup was beautiful in the days of Real Madrid's dominance, but it became corrupted by Italy's negative tactics in the sixties and British spectator violence in the seventies, until it reached its nadir last Wednesday. The absurdity of the European Cup came to be believed that we, or football, could not live without it. The ultimate condemnation of the state to which the authorities had allowed the game to descend was on Wednesday night when UEFA obliged to play the match with the dead and injured still lying outside the Heysel Stadium because they were too afraid of the consequences if they did not.

That admission is an even greater shame than the catastrophe which preceded it and it is that which the FA, the government, the courts, the police, the school-teachers, and we ourselves as parents and uncles and aunts and brothers and sisters have to acknowledge and to care.

Riding Felton International's Packers Hill, he wrested victory — and the £1,000 first prize — from the top French rider, Michel Robert, who finished second on his consistently good speed horse Leau de la Tour. The latter pair were a fraction ahead of the third-placed Robert Smith, who produced a typically dashing round on Sanyo Olympic Video.

Mac, who represents Britain at the Aachen Show in West Germany next week, said that after getting up early to exercise his seven horses, he has been falling asleep watching yesterday's class — he was 49th to go to the box, but he said he was "a bit better go" and "sharpen himself up".

Whatever the tactics he used to do this they could not have been more effective. The 12-year-old Packers Hill bought from Trevor Backer 14 months ago, was a light work of the tough 14-fence course, which included several of the fences used in the Hickstead Derby — notably the Devil's Dyke, the road leading off to the right and the notorious Derby bank.

The Irish-bred horse revelled in the good galloping course. He went at full tilt into the upright white gate, third from home, and had the undying of Michael Whitaker, on Tamara, but Mac managed to check at the last minute and they cleared it effortlessly. Satisfyingly, the crowd's cheer was already ringing in Mac's ears as the clock registered their winning time. Packers Hill will be Mac's ride in today's Grand Prix, which is £8,000 to the winner.

The large fences in the speed class caught out many of the top riders, including Malcolm Pyralis, on Sea Pearl, and John Whitaker, on St Mungo, but proved no problem for the less experienced Peter Charles on Craven N, who finished fourth. They were double clear ahead of Neck Skelton and Everest Apollo.

Skelton, going near the beginning, had set the competition alight with a daring round. His time, without the additional five time penalties added for a knock down, was a fraction ahead of Mac's.

The 29-year-old Dutch professional rider, Emile Hendrix, on Oubstevens Een, later gained the first win by a foreign rider at the show. EVEREST DOUBLE GLAZING PARCOURS DE CHASSE: 1, Packers Hill (M Mac, GB) 0 in 28.52sec; 2, John de la Tour (M Robert, GB) 0 in 28.53sec; 3, Sanyo Olympic Video (R Smith, GB) 0 in 28.54sec.

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SHOW JUMPING

Mac wakes up and causes a stir

By Jenny MacArthur

Michael Mac, who is enjoying considerable success with his string of show jumpers, was seen in the dark, managed to wake himself up in time to win, by an astounding 4sec, the Everest Double Glazing Parcours de Chasse speed class at Hickstead's Nations Cup meeting yesterday.

Riding Felton International's Packers Hill, he wrested victory — and the £1,000 first prize — from the top French rider, Michel Robert, who finished second on his consistently good speed horse Leau de la Tour. The latter pair were a fraction ahead of the third-placed Robert Smith, who produced a typically dashing round on Sanyo Olympic Video.

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TENNIS

Noah turns up heat to cool off Clerc

From Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent, Paris

John McEnroe, whose only French championship has been 50 per cent of the 1977 mixed doubles, could not even get on the centre court yesterday. Those flash Frenchmen, Yannick Noah and Henri Leconte, had more attractive matches, so McEnroe had to do with the cosy environment of court 1, where he bewildered a large and amiable Brazilian, Marcos Hocevar.

This past week the 13-stone Hocevar has run miles without travelling far, because his three matches were played on the adjacent courts. At least he lost in good company. McEnroe's ability was often breathtaking and Hocevar seldom knew where the ball was going. McEnroe was at ease with the world's best tennis player, who produced no more than an implicitly tolerant grin. At the end he shook hands not only with Hocevar but with the umpire too.

All this was a side show. In the packed, plynometric arena of the switching centre court, Noah took Mike Smith's beating, already his Isabelle Cueto. In her last two matches Miss Fairbank has played 77 matches, including a 24-point tie-break. Chris Lloyd had to deal with Angelika Kanelopoulou, of Greece.

Steffi Graf and Gabriela Sabatini, both aged 15, are also in the 16. Miss Sabatini's beating, already his Isabelle Cueto. In her last two matches Miss Fairbank has played 77 matches, including a 24-point tie-break. Chris Lloyd had to deal with Angelika Kanelopoulou, of Greece.

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MOTOR RACING

Alboreto burns up the track

From John Blunsden, Spa-Francorchamps

Michele Alboreto and his Ferrari have claimed the provisional pole position for Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix, ahead of the two JPS Lotus-Renaults of Elio de Angelis and Ayrton Senna. But the new track surface, which helped Alboreto to beat the previous best practice time by 0.7 sec, and which gives him the edge over Senna, is already showing signs of breaking up.

The special surface, comprising an amalgam of asphalt and rubber substances, is designed to absorb water in the event of heavy rain (always a threat in the Ardennes region of Belgium), but the weather here so far has been dry and very hot, and the new surface (only completed two weeks ago because of delays through bad weather during the spring) is taking a pounding.

An angry Nicki Lauda commented: "I don't know why race organizers don't resurface their tracks at least six months before a grand prix. Then the top skin can settle properly. This way it's crazy".

It is the intense power of the turbo, coupled with the heat, which is causing the damage on the tight corners. Michele Alboreto's Ferrari Tyrrell is one of only two non-turbo-charged cars in the race, said, "the top dressing is being affected just where the turbos put all that power down in the second part of the corners".

But the turbo-charged engines have also shown fragility in the heat. Alain Prost broke no fewer than three times in the two and a half hours of preliminary practice and qualifying and is currently on the back of the grid. Lauda also finished his practice trailing oil smoke, and Jonathan Palmer's ZakSpeed had a major blow-up.

During the day several other drivers switched off their engines just as they felt they were about to blow up to save them further damage, among them Marc Surer, who has stepped in to the second Brabham as a replacement for the Frenchman Thierry Boutsien, whose unsuccessful season with the team had another setback last week when he crashed a car in testing. There are 26 cars and drivers for the grand prix.

Everyone's major concern, however, is the durability of the track, not their tyres, and those with long memories can recall the fiasco of the 1973 Belgian Grand Prix, at Zolder, when a newly laid surface peeled off

CRICKET

VSOP is a dark horse

To the mild surprise of everyone except the contingent, Alex Calder, with 37.69 points, made VSOP after the completion of the dressage at the Barbours Bramham horse trials yesterday (Olympic Matchline writes). None of the Olympic riders, including Richard Meade, David Green, Ian Stark and Diana Clapham could match her round yesterday.

CRICKET: Yorkshire v Gloucestershire, 1st Test, 1st Day, 1st Innings. Yorkshire: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

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SWIMMING

Turner to abdicate

By Athole Still

As elite groups of senior officials of the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) have just received confidential letters from their treasurer, Alf Turner, aged 68, announcing that he will not seek re-election next January to the post which he has held since 1968.

Alfred Hanson Turner, OBE, has been much more than the financial controller of the ASA and of the British Federation for the past 17 years. No one who fully understands the often mysterious politics of Britain's largest participatory sport has

Saturday

Television and radio programmes Summaries: Peter Dear, Peter Davalle

Sunday

304 of 3311
EXECUTIVES
TOWN SWING
BETTER
TIONS & ANTIQUA
CATALOGUE COURSE
EDUCATIONAL
CAREER ASSESSMENT
WEST
EYES
KSHIRE
GLIA
ORDER
CANADA
SCOTISH

BBC 1
7.00 Open University. Until 8.25.
8.30 The Saturday Picture Show, presented by Mark Curry and Maggie Philbin. Nick Hayward sings his latest single, Laura; Olympic bronze medalist Virginia Holgate is also on the show. 11.15 News. 11.30 The Big Idea. Plus cartoons featuring Popeye, Bulwinkle and Godzilla.
10.40 Grandstand, introduced by Bob Wilson. The line-up is: 10.45 and 1.40 Celtic: England versus Australia. The second 55-overs-a-side match for the Tessa Trophy. The commentators are Edgerton and Richie Bennett and Jim Baker with commentary from Ted Dunning and Ray Slingworth; 1.00 News and weather; 1.05 Gymnastics and Rugby Union: The Men's European Gymnastics championships from Oslo; and highlights of the first international Test match. England's rugby union tour of New Zealand; 4.30 Show Jumping: the Everest Double Grand Prix from Hickstead. The commentators are Raymond Brooks-Ward and Ian Haskley; 4.55 News with Jan Leeming. Weather: 5.15 Sport/Regional news.
6.20 The New Adventures of Wonder Woman. Our indefatigable heroine is pitted against a mad scientist who is responsible for a series of volcanic eruptions that both the Russians and the Chinese believe are ready to begin for the United States to fight a Third World War. Starring Rocky Medwood as the 'Yellow Comet' (Coefax).
6.10 The Kathi Harris Show. The guests include Gemma Cinton and Alvin Stardust.
6.45 Film: Brenneke (1975) starring John Wayne as the Chicago policeman in London, on the trail of a criminal from the United States, and Richard Attenborough as a Scotland Yard Commander who considers his colleague from the United States a 'menace' because of Brenneke's unorthodox methods and his habit of toting a gun. Directed by Douglas Hickox.
8.30 The Kenny Everett Television Show. More raucous comedy from the talented Mr Everett. With guests David Cassidy, Fionn Fullerton, Daniel Peacock, Sheila Steafel and Willie Rushton.
9.00 Dynasty. The worst ever crisis concerning the Carrington clan is faced by Blake Carrington, who, under pressure, divorces Claudia (his wife) for her marriage; and Jeff discovers that Nicole has been lying. Now for the bad news... (Coefax).
9.45 News and Sport. With Jan Leeming. Weather.
10.05 Film: O Lucky Man (1973) starring Malcolm McDowell. A comedy with music by Albert Ayler about the dilapidated life of a trainee coffee salesman whose adventures take him, among other places, to prison, into medical research and to Sobu's dingiest night spots. Directed by Lindsay Anderson.
12.05 Weather.

TV-am
6.15 Good Morning Britain, presented by Henry Kelly, begins with a cartoon. News at 6.30, 7.00 and 8.00; advice on holidays in Britain at 7.45; and a recipe at 8.15. The guests include Gillian Lloyd Webber, Jilly Cooper and Ray Connolly.
8.30 The Wide Awake Club.
TV/LONDON
9.25 LWT Information. 9.30 Matt and Jenny on the Wilderness Trail. Adventures of a brother and sister in rural Canada at the turn of the century (V).
10.00 No 73. Among the visitors are Colbert Hamilton and the Hell Razors; Green of Scriti Politti; Viv Fish; the one-man band who played the background music in the Eilat on the landscape artist; Fred Talbot talking about cryptometrics. 11.20 The Champneys. The two special agents have the task of saving London from a nuclear grave. Starring Stuart Damon and Alexander Bastedo.
12.15 Works of Sport, introduced by Dickie Davies. The line-up is: 12.20 Ice Hockey: a Stanley Cup match between Edmonton Oilers and Philadelphia Flyers; and Basketball: the NBA Finals; 12.45 News and sports; 12.55 Motor Racing: The Indianapolis 500. 1.20 The ITV Sbc: the 1.30, 2.00 and 2.30 from Newmarket and the 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 from Thelby; 2.55 Speedy; a semi-final of the Sunbrite World Pairs Championship; 3.50 News round-up; 4.00 Wrestling: three bouts from Morley; 4.45 Results.
5.00 News with John Suchet.
5.05 Happy Days. American comedy series.
5.30 Connections. Quiz game for schoolchildren.
6.00 The Saturday 5 O'Clock Show celebrates the 50th birthday of the driving test; and, on the Queen's official birthday, asks some seven- and eight-year olds what they think the Queen would like for a present.
6.50 The Comedians. A new series of quick-fire jokes from a selection of stand-up funny men.
7.20 The Price Is Right. Game show presented by Leslie Crowther.
8.15 Hunter. Detective Hunter and McCall try to locate a vigilante who is killing suspected criminals using sophisticated equipment.
9.15 News and sport.
9.20 Tales of the Unexpected: Skin, by Ronald Dahl. The story of a destitute man who has a priceless tattoo on his back (V).
10.00 London news headlines followed by Film: Mission (1976) starring Dustin Hoffman and Laurence Olivier. Thriller about Nazi war criminals who are on the trail of a fortune in diamonds. Directed by John Schlesinger.
12.15 Magnum. Murder is the last thing on the detective's mind when he investigates a convert on a night out on the town.
1.05 Blazeme. Off beat American humour.
1.30 Night Thoughts.

BBC 2
6.25 Open University. Until 3.10.
3.10 Film: Take Me High (1973) starring Cliff Richard, George Sorek, Hugh Griffith, Debbie Watling and Anthony Andrews. This musical tale about a young wheeler-dealer in the City whose hopes of the big time in New York are shattered when his employers post him to Birmingham. Directed by David Askey.
4.40 International Cricket. Peter West introduces further commentary from Edgerton on the 55-overs-a-side Texaco Trophy match between England and Australia.
7.30 News and sport. With Jan Leeming. Weather.
7.45 Royal Academy Summer Exhibition, introduced by James Beall. A preview of the 217th Exhibition in which a number of the 2,000 works chosen from the original 15,000 submitted are selected by a variety of guests as being of particular merit.
8.30 Film: On the Town (1949) starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Vera-Ellen. A hectic song and dance musical about three sailors on a day's leave in New York. Directed by Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen.
10.05 Saturday Review. The first programme of a new series of weekly reviews of the arts and media presented by David Davies. Harmonie Lee, Bruce McLean and Henry Porter discuss David Hara's and Howard Brenton's play about the realities of Fleet Street, Fraydoun's exhibition at the Tate Gallery; and David Thompson's book, Suspects. There is also an interview with Douglas Adams, the author of the Hitch-Hikers' Guide to the Galaxy; and Moira Shearer reviews the history of dance on film and includes excerpts from the MGM film, 'That Dancin'!'
11.05 International Cricket. Highlights of today's 55-overs-a-side match at Edgbaston between England and Australia in the 'Taco Trophy' series. Introduced by Peter West.
11.55 Men's European Gymnastics. Highlights of today's action on AGO featuring the strong Russian team, making their mark after their non-appearance at the Olympic Games. The commentator is Ron Pickering. Ends at 12.30.

CHANNEL 4
1.00 Chips' Comic. (V).
1.25 Pick Yourself. (V). A documentary about Artvin, a mobile cartoon, design and scriptwriting unit that plus the Calderais, Kridoes and Wakefield districts. Subtitled.
1.55 Film: My Lucky Star (1938) starring Sonja Henie and Richard Greene. Musical comedy about a seafarer who is sent to a university by the son of her employer in order to save her embarrassment at being named, wrongly, as a co-respondent in a divorce case. Directed by Roy Del Ruth.
3.25 Film: Holy Matrimony? (1943) starring Gracie Fields. Comedy about a reclusive artist who is forced to return to England when he is awarded a knighthood. Directed by John Stahl.
5.05 Brookside (V) (Oracle).
6.00 The Max Headroom Show. A selection of sketches.
6.30 No Problem! The final programme of the comedy series about a young black family living in North London.
7.00 News summary and weather followed by 7 Days. There is a film report on a black Pentecostal Church in Lewisham; and discussions on the Brussels horror and on the sentences of the two miners convicted of murder.
7.30 Lakeland Rock. Peter Whitmore and David Armstrong join Chris Bonington for his final rock climb of the series - up Great Gable by an untried route.
8.15 Winston Churchill - The Wilderness Years. The last episode of the serial about Churchill's decade of being out of office. He is a voice of dissent in a Parliament that believes what Chamberlain has brought back from Hitler (V).
9.15 To Be A Yellowbelly... Part two of the lives of Lincolnshire farmworkers.
10.00 Outings - Power of the Metas. Episode two of the series about a young policeman's battles against the Sicilian Mafia.
11.10 The Late Clive James with Quentin Crisp and Mel Smith.
11.55 Naked City (V) The police are called to protect a sculptor and his latest work. Starring George C. Scott as the sculptor.
12.50 The Paul Hogan Show. 12.50 Closes down.

BBC 1
6.45 Open University. Until 8.50.
6.55 Play School. 9.15 Superbook. How Gideon amasses an army to fight the Midianites. 9.30 This is the Day. Prayer and fellowship service from a student's room at Warwick University.
10.00 Asian Magazine. This week's edition includes the first of a new series of film reports on sporting Asians. Pat Murphy meets Warwickshire cricketer, Asif Din. 10.30 Birth Right. The first of five personal views on the maburnly services of the Eighties presented by Peter Huntington (V).
10.55 Greek Language and People. The tenth and final programme of the series (V). 11.30 Letting Go. For parents and their teenage children (V). 11.45 The Learning Curve. Part six - the future of computers in education (V).
12.10 Honourable Members. Part two of the series examining the role of the 12-36 Farming. 12.58 Weather.
1.00 News headlines. 1.05 News. Ben comes to the aid of a midwife, who, on leaving the security of a circus to find work elsewhere, encounters nothing but adversity (V). 1.50 Cartoon. 2.00 Escapees (V) (Coefax). 3.00 Bags Bunny.
3.10 Film: Our Man in Marrakech (1956) starring Tony Randall, Santa Berger and Terry Thomas. Comedy spy spoof set in Morocco involving secret documents, millions of dollars and a reluctant hero. Directed by Don Sharp.
4.40 Isles Apart. In the last of four programmes Andrew Cooper selects the roots and fauna of the Solly Isles (V).
5.10 The Montreux Rock Festival. Part two of the series of highlights includes Noel Edmonds talking to Boy George about his career and performance by Elton John and Midge Usher.
6.00 Goodbye Mr Chips. Part one of the six-part dramatization of James Hilton's classic novel. Starring Roy Marsden as Mr Chips (V) (Coefax).
6.30 News with Jan Leeming.
6.40 Praise Be! Thora Hird presents another selection of popular hymns (Coefax).
7.15 Sorry! The last programme of the comedy series finds Timothy becoming excited by his involvement with a bearded lady and a talented seal (Coefax).
7.45 The Paul Daniels Magic Show. A repeat of the special programme that won him the Golden Globe award at this year's Montreux International Festival.
8.25 Whicker's World. The final part of Alan Whicker's Pacific Ocean cruise on the Queen Elizabeth 2 (V).
9.15 That's Life. Consumer affairs.
10.15 News with the Mayor. David Jessel with the story of a Sister of Mercy who bureaucracy has forbidden to assassinate London's down and out.
10.50 Arena: Desert Island Discs. A tribute to the late Roy Plomley (V)
11.40 The Sky at Night. Patrick Moore talks about the Galileo probe's approach to the asteroid Amphitrite.
12.00 International Show Jumping. Highlights from the four-day meeting at Hickstead.
12.35 Weather.

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TV-am
6.55 Good Morning Britain, presented by David Frost, begins with a Thought for the Day. 7.00 Rub-a-Dub-Tub. For young early risers (V). 8.00 Are You Awake Yet? 8.25 News; 8.40 A review of the newspapers; 8.50 Jeni Barnett's pick of the week; 9.00 the David Frost interview.
TV/LONDON
9.25 LWT Information; 9.30 Speedy and Sylvester. Morning. 9.45 Porphy Pig. 10.00 Working Party from St Claire's Church, Preston. 11.00 Getting On. Magazine programme for the older viewer. Gillian Reynolds discusses the standard of the spoken word in radio broadcasting with Jocelyn Hay, David Heath and Mike Owen. There is also a report on the treatment of pain.
11.30 Breakthrough. For the hearing impaired. Rachel Baskier interviews deaf MP, Jack Ashley.
12.00 Weekend World. An investigation into Wednesday night's violence before the European Cup final.
1.00 Police 5. 1.15 The Smurfs. 1.30 Cara Bears. Cartoon (V). 2.00 Film: The Catcher in the Rye. Chaz Bono talks about his life and career.
2.30 London news headlines followed by Film: An Affair to Remember (1957) starring Cary Grant and Deborah Kerr. Romance tale of a couple both engaged to someone else, who meet on board a liner and fall in love. They agree to meet again in six months time so well their feelings for each other have changed. Directed by Leo McCarey.
5.30 Survival Special: Birds of a Feather. A documentary about what is thought to be the most numerous bird in the world - the Gull (Oracle).
6.30 News with John Suchet.
6.40 Highway. Sir Harry Scoble is on Guernsey where he meets, among others, Cyril Fletcher and John Arlott.
7.15 Winner Take All. Game show.
7.45 Murder. Sue wrote. Jessica is horrified to learn that one of her novels is to be made into a movie about a violent film. She vows to do anything in her power to prevent the film being made and when the film's producer is murdered Jessica becomes the prime suspect (Coefax).
8.45 News with John Suchet.
9.00 Connie. Part two of the rag trade serial, starring Stephanie Beacham as the hard-core woman clawing her way back to success.
10.00 Mog. Comedy series starring Ewan Parker as a prisoner on the run. (Oracle).
10.30 The South Bank Show. Melvyn Bragg introduces Prez, a new jazz opera based on the life and work of Lester Young.
11.30 London news headlines followed by Death in a Scarlet (1974) starring Michael Caine. A new documentary about the causes of a riot in 1980 at the New Mexico state penitentiary, which lasted for 86 hours and left 33 convicts dead.
12.25 Night Thoughts.

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12.50 The Paul Hogan Show. 12.50 Closes down.

BBC 1
7.15 Open University. Until 1.55
1.55 Sunday Grandstand, presented by Bob Wilson. There is Motor Racing: the Belgian Grand Prix from Spa; Cricket: a John Player Special League match; Gymnastics: the Men's European Championships from Oslo; and Show Jumping: the Everest Double Glazing Nations Cup from Hickstead.
6.50 News Review with Jan Leeming. Subtitled.
7.15 Stuart Burrows Stage. The fifth programme in the series of six in which Stuart Burrows sings a selection of popular songs, ballads and operatic arias and he is joined by soprano Eiddwen Harry. Debut. This week Sarah Greene meets Paul Marley, a third year student at the Royal Academy of Music; Sarah Davies, a final year student in the School of Fashion Design at the Royal College of Art, whose designs are shown by Jane Wood, a student model on a Lucy Clayton course and photographed by David Schimmann, a student at the London College of Printing; and Robin Williams, a student at the John Makepeace School for Craftsmen in Wood.
8.20 Disaster Richard Kershaw reports on how many countries are trying to protect themselves from disasters using experiences gained by earlier catastrophes. Among them, Latin American countries' abilities to survive earthquakes and, ironically, how Bangladesh has been successfully fighting a famine which threatened six million people.
9.30 Grand Prix. Highlights of this afternoon's Belgium Grand Prix (1985) from the Spa-Francorchamps. The commentators are Murray Walker and James Hunt.
10.00 Bleak House. The final episode of the dramatization of Charles Dickens's novel and Richard, an increasingly demented man, continues to pursue the legal case of Jarmoyce and Jarmoyce (V) (Coefax).
10.55 Film: The Reincarnation of Peter Proud (1974) starring Michael Caine. A new documentary about the causes of a riot in 1980 at the New Mexico state penitentiary, which lasted for 86 hours and left 33 convicts dead.
12.25 Night Thoughts.

CHANNEL 4
1.05 High Angle. A report made by Ulster TV's Counterpoint programme about the impact of the public's change in the dietary habits has had on the local agriculture industry.
1.30 Face the Press. A new series begins with a new chairman, Gillian Reynolds. On her first panel she has Mary Holland of the Observer and James Adams of the Sunday Times who question Paul Wilkinson, Professor of International Relations at Aberystwyth University, on the question of terrorism.
2.00 A Question of Economics. Part 18 of the 20-programme series examines the world of work and the effects that the increasing affluence of the last few centuries has had on the division of labour.
2.25 Film: Modern Seventeen* (1932) starring John Stuart and Anne Grey. A Hitchcock thriller about a newspaper editor who, with his wife and despite his sceptical editor, tracks down a gang of jewel thieves. Directed by David MacDonald.
5.00 Back to the Roots. Part one of a repeat series in which Richard Kershaw explores the history and uses of plants.
5.30 News Summary and weather followed by The Business Programme. Peter Hobbay talks to Cecil Harris, chief executive of Commercial Union, about the heavy losses the company is incurring in the United States.
6.15 Athletics: The Old English Cycle Series. The third and final road race of the series is over 10 kilometres of SW1.
7.15 Heritage: Civilization and the Jews. Part one of a nine-part history of the Jews.
8.15 The Irish and the Sea. A new series of comedies begins with Major Yates being instrumental in bringing moving pictures to Skibawn, to the initial delight of the villagers and to the dismay of the priest.
9.15 The Painter and the Priest. Salman Rushdie narrates this documentary about how abstract expressionist painter Harold Shapinsky was plucked from obscurity by an Indian professor of English.
10.15 Film: The Talk of the Town* (1942) starring Jimmy Grant and Jean Arthur. Comedy drama about a man on the run from a frame-up for murder and arson. Directed by George Stevens. Ends at 12.25.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m; 1089kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 1500kHz; VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/261m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/206m; VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.
Radio 4
On long wave and also VHF stereo.
8.55 Shipping. 8.55 News Briefing. 9.00 News. 9.05 News. 9.10 News. 9.15 News. 9.20 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 News. 1.55 News. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. 2.10 News. 2.15 News. 2.20 News. 2.25 News. 2.30 News. 2.35 News. 2.40 News. 2.45 News. 2.50 News. 2.55 News. 3.00 News. 3.05 News. 3.10 News. 3.15 News. 3.20 News. 3.25 News. 3.30 News. 3.35 News. 3.40 News. 3.45 News. 3.50 News. 3.55 News. 4.00 News. 4.05 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